

THE  
INTRIGUES  
OF  
N A B O B:

OR,  
BENGAL THE FITTEST SOIL

FOR THE GROWTH OF  
LUST, INJUSTICE and DISHONESTY.

Dedicated to the Hon. the  
COURT OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

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By HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

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Printed for the AUTHOR.

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THE  
COMPTON

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THE



COURT OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

EAST INDIA COMPANY

BY HENRY FIELD THOMSON

Printed by the Author

London



TO THE  
DIRECTORS

Of the HONOURABLE the  
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

GENTLEMEN,

**H**AVING once had the honour to serve the Company over which you preside, though in a station to which I was not appointed by your board, but by that of the Council of Bengal; I trust so far to

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the

iv DEDICATION.

the attention you pay to every thing that relates to India, as to request you will condescend to take the following sheets under your protection.

I HAVE the pleasure to observe, Gentlemen, that it has been remarked, that your conduct has been invariably calculated to convince the public how much it is your wish to reward the faithful servants of the Company. The person who demonstrates the *merits* of your Governors is I hope not undeserving your notice, I therefore imagine that the following little work, which I have thought proper to make the channel of my information to your board, will be honoured with

# DEDICATION. v

with your patronage and countenance. It will exhibit to your view, Gentlemen, a favourite servant, with *abilities* equally capable of vindicating your honours in the fields of *Venus* as of *Mars*. The *accuracy, perspicuity, and energy* of his *Amorous Epistles*, will plainly evince his great knowledge of the human heart ; *though they encourage a suspicion, that HIS understanding was then disturbed by the object of his love.*

THESE sheets, Gentlemen, will shew you how *delicate* he was in the choice of his agents when he extended his patronage to a man a disgrace to society, and how respectful to the

board of Directors, when he imposed such a character on them, as fit to be honoured with an employment in their service. The private character, Gentlemen, of the person who is the subject of these sheets, will appear in no less *favourable* point of view : and I trust you will be ready to confess with me when you have perused the Narrative, that he is as *amiable* in *private* life, as he is *honourable* in his *public* capacity.

HIS many virtues cannot fail to strike you ; and your *justice* will no doubt induce you to reward them, as *they deserve*, you may *call him home* to exhibit him to his countrymen as a pattern of *honour*, and when dead,  
erect



DEDICATION. vii

erect to his memory a sumptuous monument.

FOR PERJURY PROTECTED,  
FRIENDSHIP VIOLATED,  
AND THE SACRED LAWS OF HOSPITALITY  
DISREGARDED.

I FLATTER myself with the patronage of the Company, for pointing out to their notice so *worthy* a personage, whose *great* and *good* qualities are celebrated in the following little work : conscious that so respectable a BODY are jealous of their honours in the behaviour of their servants, as having at heart the prosperity of every individual under their Government.

**viii DEDICATION.**

I shall take the liberty to subscribe  
myself, with all due respect, Gen-  
tlemen,

Your most obedient

And most humble Servant,

**THE AUTHOR.**

**THE**

T H E  
I N T R I G U E S  
O F A  
N A B O B.

**T**O remove the prejudice, which appearances may have induced the world to entertain against me; and to rescue from obloquy a character, which even the breath of calumny had never sullied, till I had the misfortune to become acquainted with Mr. Richard Barwell, is the sole object I have in view in publishing the following sheets. *Resentment* has no share in the publication. — Little as may be my consequence, and humble my walk in life, I hold the author of my misfortunes, however great in rank and fortune, too *contemptible* to be honoured with the resentment of an honest man.

If

If he has the smallest share of those  
 fine feelings, of which he would make  
 his friends believe he is possessed, they  
 will create more pangs in his breast, than  
 the most pointed reproaches that I could  
 make him. Let him reflect, that he has  
 rendered abortive the views in life which  
 my interest and my friends had taught me  
 to entertain. Let him recollect that his  
 lust has blasted my well-founded hopes,  
 and clouded the flattering prospects I had  
 of honestly acquiring an easy and decent  
 fortune. Let him remember, that he has  
 reduced to distress a man, who but for  
 him had glided gently down the current  
 of life, without stigma, or contempt.  
 Let him consider that he has murdered  
 the peace of mind of one who never did  
 him an injury, and who consequently did  
 not deserve such treatment at his hands.  
 To these reflections I leave him; and if he  
 has a particle of sensibility, I am sure  
 that neither his riches, or his honours,  
 could bribe me to envy his situation.

I AM



I AM well aware, that the task I propose myself is equally arduous and dangerous. To clear my own reputation, I must be severe on that of another, whom great connections, great friends, and great abilities render extremely formidable. But as every danger sinks before me, when I wish to establish the integrity of my character; as I appeal to an impartial public, who will decide according to justice, because they are not swayed by any consideration of the power and influence of the party arraigned; and as I shall be supported by truth in all I advance, I shall boldly pursue the object of my justification unawed by menaces—undaunted at the perils, and unsolicitous for the consequence of an unequal contest, between a man who has nothing but the justice of his cause to protect him, and another whom a princely fortune and extensive power must necessarily make the head of a strong party. But reputation is dearer to me than life or liberty; and  
until

until that is secured, I give fear to the winds.

THE many reports to my disadvantage, most industriously circulated by the family and friends of the gentleman who is the hero of the following sheets, make it a duty to myself, and to those who honour me with their friendship, to expose to public view a transaction, which it had been more to the credit of Mr. Richard Barwell to have buried in oblivion. The publication, I flatter myself will dispel the mists that have long obscured my character; but it must at the same time cover with confusion the man, who could basely violate the laws of hospitality; seduce from his guest the object of his love, and afterwards avail himself of the legal *informality* of an agreement, to rob an injured man of the small compensation which his necessities had obliged him to accept, for the loss of happiness, and his prospects of fortune. Before I proceed  
to

to a relation of the facts that were the ground-work of the dissensions between Mr. Richard Barwell and me, it will not be improper to make the public acquainted with the personages that are to play the chief characters in the piece that I am about to open.

MR. Richard Barwell, at present one of the members of the supreme council of Bengal, is a gentleman no less distinguished for his abilities as a scholar and a governor, than for his great fortune. His prudence and œconomy have enabled him so far to improve the inheritance left him by his father, (which was no more than 10,000 l. that exclusive of his seat at the council board, which brings him in TEN THOUSAND a year, he is supposed to be worth at least TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS. It were injustice to Mr. R. Barwell not to admit that he is possessed of many of those amiable qualities, which equally adorn both public and private life. But two vices cast a deep shade  
over

over his virtues.—A lust of power, and a lust of pleasure, Ambition and luxury are his ruling passions. Money in general, though not in all cases, seems to be viewed by him in a subordinate degree; and to be valued only inasmuch as it may promote his ambitious designs, or secure to him those sensual enjoyments, which can be found in women. To be able to rule the supreme council is what his ambition has aimed at since his appointment to a seat at the board; and provided he can govern the Eastern world as he pleases, he cares not at what expence he acquires his power. A single trait will prove this assertion beyond a doubt. When messrs. Hastings, Clavering, Monson, Barwell and Francis were appointed members of the supreme Council, Clavering, Monson, and Francis had but one interest, and constituted a majority at the Council board, against Mr. Hastings and Mr. Barwell. The latter was determined, it is said, to make every effort to gain over one of the triumvirate to his party. Mr. Francis  
not



It being as amply provided for in point of fortune, as the other two, or appearing more open to golden conviction, Mr. Barwell levelled all his artillery at him, and has been heard to say, that to detach him from Clavering and Monson, he had no objection to lose 20,000*l*. For this purpose he played at cards with Mr. Francis for very large sums, hoping, that if he should be so fortunate as to win, he could at any time gain over Mr. Francis, and secure his voice at the board, by releasing him from the debt of honour. But fortune was unfavourable to our hero, for instead of winning, he lost to Mr. Francis no less a sum than FORTY THOUSAND POUND.

His love of women I need not exhibit in glowing colours, the public will find it sufficiently expressed, in his own letters, which are given *verbatim* in this little Publication. It is necessary only to observe, that it was so strong, when the wretch whom I once called by the endearing

dearing name of wife, first struck his eye; that to it he sacrificed every idea of honour and justice, and did not stick at the violation of those laws, which even savages hold sacred. I am not ungrateful; and I should be sorry to speak disrespectfully of a man from whom I have received marks of friendship; if I were not satisfied that his kindness was calculated solely for purposes of blindfolding me, and keeping me removed from the object that I once held dearer than my life, that he might the more easily dishonour me, and seduce from me those affections which I then deemed invaluable. Let his correspondence bear witness, whether or no I am too severe in my opinion.

Mrs. SARAH BONNER, alias Thompson; is already well known in the amorous world; but as she was the grand cause of all my misfortunes, and of the unmerited disgrace under which I at present labour, I hope the public will forgive

give me, if I am a little diffuse in drawing her picture. Her person, when I took her out to India, was perfectly agreeable and engaging; but she was a mere outside beauty; she had neither sentiment nor intellects to captivate a man, who would allow himself for a moment to doubt that she was not all perfection. Her charms were of the bewitching kind; they infused a soporiferous poison into the mind, which benumbed and stupified the reasoning powers, and left her sole mistress of the head and heart of her lovers. Such was her dominion over *me*; but it not a little surprises me, that a man of Mr. Barwell's sense and penetration could be mistaken in her. From his letters the public may collect, that he was a most sentimental admirer of Mrs. Bonner; that he wished, in order to riot in the extreme of love, to make the soul equally participate in the pleasure with the body; and yet of all women she was the least capable of pleasing sentimentally

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sentimentally—She was a mere alabaster figure, that could charm the eye without touching the soul. Her literary correspondence ought to have opened the eyes of Mr. Barwell, cured him of his passion, and saved me from ruin and disgrace, for she was completely ignorant, by nature dull, and unpolished by education. However, as I was bewitched myself, I cannot but admit some excuse for Mr. Barwell, for falling a captive to her beauty: But let me ask even the freest votaries to pleasure, if a man has a right to plead the charms of a woman as an exculpation for having tarnished his honour, broken his word, violated the laws of hospitality, and ruined an innocent unoffending friend? The greatest latitudinarians could not dare to acquit him.

As this *Lady* has been pleased to arraign my character; as she has endeavoured to throw a blemish on my birth and reputation, and has not been ashamed to calumniate me, by accusing me with  
having



having been the destroyer of her virtue, and the ruin of her innocence, I hope my readers will not deem it amiss, that I attempt to overturn so foul a charge: to this end I must let them into a little of my own history, and her character, previous to our voyage to India. I shall be as concise as possible I can; and as all the persons whom I shall have occasion to mention, are still living, my adversaries will have an opportunity to prove me a liar, if I advance a syllable that is not strictly true. The reflection thrown on my *honesty*, by a woman who owes more to me, than to the very person who gave her birth, brings this one consolation with it, that it affords me an opportunity to call on some of the most respectable characters at the India House, to do me that justice in public, which they have ever been ready to extend to me in private.

If an honourable descent were any merit, I could claim it with justice, as I am

the son of a gentleman of good family, who gave me a genteel education, and placed me at the age of sixteen under the care of Thomas Bates Rouse, Esq; one of the present directors of the India Company. Under him I perfected a Bombay and China voyage, and returned with him to England in July 1764; what that gentleman thought of my character may be collected from this single circumstance, not to mention others, that all the time I continued with him, he did me the honour to entertain me at *his own table*.

THROUGH the interest of my friends, I was, soon after my return, appointed fifth mate of the Fox East Indiaman, Capt. Hume. With this gentleman I made another Bombay and China Voyage, and was so much esteemed by him, that I have it to acknowledge, with gratitude I now publicly do it, that I frequently felt both his *friendship* and *generosity*. Capt. Hume is too well known for his probity, and worth, to be supposed capable of honour.

honouring with his friendship, or assisting with his purse, a man whose character should render him unworthy of either.

I MAKE no doubt but the sanction and protection I met with from these two very respectable gentlemen, will induce the Public to believe, that the charge of dishonesty brought against my character is grounded only in malice and resentment. The honourable trust I faithfully discharged in India, with credit to myself, and to the satisfaction of the Governor and Council, is an additional proof, if an additional one is wanting, to establish the integrity of my reputation. I am happy to have it equally in my power to clear myself from the accusation, of having been the first who ever undermined the virtue of a woman, who does not appear to have ever known what virtue was; as to her chastity she so soon forgot it, that she might be almost said to remember as well the first words she ever pronounced, as to recollect the period when she was possessed

of modesty; this will appear from the following short account of her.

SHE was the daughter of a Mr. Bonner, who had been master of a small vessel. Her mother being left a widow, when the child was very young, did not long remain single; but soon married one Downing, a taylor, who soon dissipated what little property his wife was possessed of. The distress he brought on the family made the mother send her daughter to service when she was scarce turned of fifteen. She lived with a Mr. Valentine; and at his house got acquainted with a man, who treated her one evening to Sadler's wells, and afterwards took her to a bagnio, and, without her consent, robbed her of that virtue from which she falsely accuses me of having first taught her to stray. He afterwards left her at the celebrated Fanny Herbert's, in Bow-street, where she was *introduced* to several gentlemen. A dispute happened there one night between our young *Helen*, Fanny Herbert,



Herbert, and the mother, and whatever might have been the cause of it, it ended in a walk to Covent Garden round-house, where they all three charged each other, and were detained. It was on that very night, when heated with wine, and ripe for sport, as most young men are, who breaking loose from the yoke of reason, entirely deliver themselves up to their passions, which make them drown every sober consideration in the pursuit of pleasure. In this disposition I went out with Mr. Farrell, of King-street, Covent-garden, who had been just sworn constable of the parish, and thinking the round-house a place where I probably should meet with high entertainment, I begged Mr. Farrell to take me with him to it. He did so, and there for the first time in my life I saw the woman, who has since been my destruction. She was just sixteen years of age; and as her figure was very engaging, it is no wonder it made an impression on a giddy thoughtless young man. I wished to free her from her confinement, but

that was impossible; the constable refused to discharge her, till Sir John Fielding should have been made acquainted with the matter. I requested however that she would give me an interview as soon as she should have recovered her liberty; and gave her a silver pencil case, with my name on it, that she might not mistake me for another person who was along with me. She accepted my present, and promised to grant my request. The next day she was carried before Sir John Fielding, who dismissed the charge, enlarged her, and sent her home with her mother. For the truth of this circumstance I appeal to the records of the public office in Bow-street, where there is a minute of this transaction, which, to the best of my recollection, happened in October, 1767.

WHETHER her mother wished that her Sally should reform or not I cannot well tell; but the promised interview was not granted, and my pencil-case was brought to me by a porter. Feeling a very warm passion for the young girl, I was under  
the

the greatest anxiety at the disappointment, and made every enquiry, but in vain, to find out her retreat. Chance at last effected all I wished for. In about a week after I had first seen her, I accidentally met her, her mother, and a man, whom I had never seen before, at the top of Northumberland street in the Strand; the man, I afterwards learned, was the person who first debauched her. I immediately joined the company, and was informed by the daughter, that she was going with her mother to Westminster-hall on very disagreeable business, and much against her inclination. I thought that a favourable opportunity to solicit her to go with me; she joyfully complied with my desire, and we both dexterously slipped from the mother and the man, neither of whom have I ever since seen. We passed the night at Deptford, and in order to be secure from a pursuit, I took apartments at Bromley in Kent, where we resided for a considerable time. I had been at much expence to support and  
cloathe

cloathe her, for her precipitate retreat from London had left her with no more cloaths than she had on when I met her. I therefore was obliged to make her up an entire new wardrobe. But the loss of money and time was not all I had to lament; I soon discovered that our intercourse had impaired my health; in a word, I soon found the assistance of a surgeon absolutely necessary. I was provoked beyond description at this discovery, and instead of seeking my vengeance on her for the injury she had done to my health, I felt myself so melted by her tears, so bewitched by her beauty in distress, that I could not think of revenge; the dumb eloquence of her eyes drowned in tears disarmed my rage, awakened my compassion, and procured her pardon. Stoics, you may ridicule my weakness: but a son of nature ever will obey the impulse of nature: a beauteous girl, prostrate at your feet, and imploring forgiveness, would bend the stubborn soul of the most rigid



rigid philosopher among you ! Pope knew human nature, when he said,

“ If to her share some female errors fall,  
Look on her face, and you'll forget 'em all.”

I REMOVED her to town, and procured her every assistance that her health required. I began to think as highly of her heart as of her beauty ; for I thought I perceived a fund of gratitude for the tenderness I had shewn her ; and I give her credit for many other virtues, which I did not see, because I was of opinion, that gratitude is always attended with a numerous and virtuous train. I was charmed likewise with her prudence, and concern for me, which would not suffer her to exceed the bounds which my income had prescribed me. I began to entertain some notion of making her my wife, and was prevented only by a desire to be acquainted with her heart, and more fully satisfied of her constancy and attachment. I had rescued her from promiscuous prostitution ; and held out,

as

as an encouragement to her, the prospect of marriage, which I taught her to look upon it as a reward for that place I held in her affections, which, I flattered myself, I had entirely engrossed. She was still deficient in many accomplishments, the want of which I could overlook in a mistress, but not in a wife; and I wished to make a longer trial of her before I should give her a legal right to that name. However, I had no time for that trial; the season being come for returning to India, I took the sudden resolution to introduce her to my mother and family as my wife; anticipating a name, which, in a few months, I was determined to give her, as I intended then to make India the constant place of my residence; I left directions with my mother, to send my (supposed) wife, whom I shall henceforward call Mrs. Thompson, together with my sister, after me to the Indies; and previous to my departure, I recommended her education to my mother; who, to forward it [as much as possible, placed her

her at Mrs. Gruit's boarding school, on the Surry side of Westminster-bridge.

HAVING settled every thing to my satisfaction, I sailed for Bengal in the month of March, 1768, with very strong recommendations from some of the Court of Directors in Leadenhall-street, to Mr. Verelst, at that time Governor of Bengal, and messrs. Beecher and Alexander, who were of the Council. The multiplicity of recommendations to these gentlemen had put it out of their power to provide for me in a manner suitable to the regard they had for the persons who had recommended me; all they could do at that time was to appoint me second officer on board a freight ship, belonging to the Governor and Council. Previous to my departure from Calcutta, in Feb. 1769, I appointed Capt. Cox, whom I had known on a former voyage, my attorney; and placed in his hands a sufficient sum of money, to provide for the reception of Mrs. Thompson and my sister, who

I ex-

I expected would arrive from Europe during my absence. I sailed on board the *Vanfittart*, Capt. Dixon, a gentleman now in England, with whom I finished the voyage, in the station which Mr. Verelst had procured me. I never was on the best terms with the Captain, and yet, when we parted, he gave me a character in nearly the following words, "Had you not been the careful sober person you was, you had not been long second officer with me."

At my return to Calcutta from China, in Feb. 1770, I learned that Mrs. Thompson had arrived in the duke of Grafton from Europe, and had been in Bengal since the latter end of October, 1769. My supposed wife, for as such I introduced her to all my acquaintance, and were perfectly happy in each other; I was blessed with an amiable partner, whom I found much improved since I left England, though not so much as I could wish; and she found in me a friend, whose  
greatest



greatest happiness it was to see her satisfied with her situation. United in sentiments, in interest and love, we had no views but for the mutual advantages of both. Blessed union ! too soon wert thou dissolved. The destroyer of my peace and fortune saw my fair one ; he saw her with my eyes, and immediately resolved, if possible, to compleat his happiness at the expence of mine. The sacred mask of friendship was put on, the more easily to betray ; and while the deceiver was caressing me with one hand, the other was sharpening a dagger, to wound me in the most tender point. He succeeded alas ! but too well, adultery had for him no horrors ; he seduced from me the affections of her whom he thought the wife of my bosom ; and had the wretched satisfaction of seeing an honest industrious man dashed thro' his means, from splendor and opulence, to obscurity and distress, from respect and society to contempt and solitude ; in a word, from almost supreme felicity to inexpressible misery of both  
body

body and mind.—Be it now mine the melancholy task to lay before the public the origin of a connexion that has been my destruction, and to expose the arts, by which villainy imposed on me in the garb of friendship.

It is necessary to inform my readers, that on account of the small number of European ladies in India, a constant intercourse between families is more encouraged there than in any other part of the world, Society is peculiarly cultivated; and for this purpose every house is open in the evening for the reception of such visitors, as wish to court the acquaintance of their neighbours. The Europeans all mutually receive and pay visits; and from this practice they all become personally acquainted. To make Mrs. Thompson's situation as agreeable as possible, and in order to introduce her in all the polite circles, I readily conformed to a custom, which served to banish solitude, and enliven her hours. To this purpose the  
house

house which I had directed my agent, Capt. Cox, to take for my wife and sister, as soon as they should arrive, was genteely furnished, and soon honoured with the visits of persons of the first distinction of both sexes. One evening I was struck with the appearance of one of my visitors, whom I had never seen before. His address, his figure, his deportment, his conversation, all spoke him at once the man of sense and fine gentleman. On enquiry, I found my new guest was Mr. RICHARD BARWELL, at that time one of the Council of Bengal; his rank and influence pointed him out to me as a gentleman, whose friendship might be very valuable to me, and his engaging manners and affable behaviour, seemed to invite me to court it. Specious appearance! How was I deceived by you! Like the inexperienced landfman, who, charmed with the smooth, unruffled surface of the deep, quits the shore and trusts himself to a ship; enjoys with pleasure the calm prospect that lies before him, till the wind rising, the treacherous

C                      element

element swells beneath his vessel, nor ceases to agitate it, till it is dashed against a rock, or driven on the shore. The ruined passenger then sees his delusion, and curses the calm that had deceived him. Such exactly was my fate. I took the countenance of Mr. Barwell for the picture of his mind, and soon believed his heart to be the seat of every moral and social virtue. I deemed him a pattern of honour and humanity; nor was I undeceived, till I but too plainly discovered he had basely undermined my happiness; and by meanly representing me to my supposed wife, as unworthy of her superior excellence and charms, as not being able sufficiently to discern or reward them, he effectually supplanted me in the affections of a woman, for whom alone I wished to live. He taught her to break the most sacred ties of friendship, gratitude, and justice, and made a melancholy wreck of my fortune, in the pursuit of an enjoyment which was to seal his infamy and my destruction.

But



BUT to return from my digression. Mr. Verelst, to whom I had been recommended, was returned to Europe, and there remained no one at the board on whom I had any claims for protection. I therefore thought it prudent to gain the esteem of Mr. Barwell, and omitted nothing in my power to render him my friend. I was pleased and flattered to find that he met me half way ; and I felt the greatest happiness in the acquisition of a friend, who promised me the whole weight of his influence and protection ; nor did he confine himself to bare promises. He found my house in Calcutta not sufficiently commodious, and gave me liberty to remove my family to a country-house of a Mr. Lushington, a friend of his who was absent, and who had requested Mr. Barwell to dispose of it for him in what manner he should think proper. Mr. Barwell not being able to get either a tenant or purchaser, politely insisted that I should make use of it, till his friend should return.

BUT a little previous to this, I received a much more substantial favour thro' his influence. Emboldened by repeated protestations of kindness, which I was blind enough at that time to attribute to friendship or humanity, but which I afterwards discovered to have flowed from a far different source, I presumed to solicit his interest to procure me a very lucrative office, which by the promotion of the gentleman who had last filled it, was then at the disposal of the council. This was, to the best of my recollection, in August or September 1770. I was not mistaken in the opinion I had formed of Mr. Barwell's influence, or of his readiness to serve me. My wishes were crown'd with success; for through his interest I was appointed deputy pay-master to the second brigade, and received orders in October 1770 to proceed with the second battalion to Burrampore\*.

\* About 100 miles distance from Calcutta, where part of the troops were stationed.

Mr

My gratitude to my benefactor knew no bounds; I owed to him my promotion to an office, which brought me in 700 l. a year, and I was ready to devote my life for the man, who, as I thought, without the least selfish view, had procured me so genteel an establishment. How deceived was I by appearances? What thanks did I pour forth to a man for an act which had nothing less in it than generosity? He had formed designs against my happiness; and to promote them, it was necessary to heap favours on me, in order to prevent suspicion. He succeeded too well, and I was so blinded by my gratitude, that nothing less than demonstration could have made me suppose it possible, that Mr. Barwell could be a traitor to honour. But my inexperience of mankind made my unsuspecting heart give him credit *for more virtues* than he possessed.

I DESIRED Mrs. Thompson would prepare herself to accompany me to my station;

tion ; but was not a little surprized to find that she could not be prevailed on to leave Calcutta ; however, as I did not like to do the least violence to her inclinations, I resolved to go without her, and leaving her and my sister at Garden-house, a little way from Calcutta, I took my leave of her and my kind patron, assuring the former, that she should receive occasionally such remittances as would enable her to live in a genteel stile, nor did I fail to keep my word most religiously.

SOME time after my departure from Calcutta, a revolution took place in the Council ; the number of members was reduced, and Mr. Barwell being a junior one, was removed from his seat ; but in lieu of it, he was appointed second of the \* *Derbar*, and took up his residence at Mootigeal, within about seven miles from the cantonments, where I lay with the troops. I soon waited on him to pay him my respects, and to testify the happiness

\* Where the Company's revenues are collected.

I felt



I felt, in having so good a friend residing so near me. He received me with the usual marks of kindness, and gave me an invitation to live with him at Mootigeal. My interest and my inclination soon determined me to accept his obliging offer, and under his roof I felt myself as happy as a man could be, who wanted nothing but the company of the woman whom he held most dear. Mr. Barwell had his views in making his house my home; but I *then* attributed all his kindness to the most sincere, and most disinterested friendship; the reader shall soon hear how I was undeceived.

THE happiness I enjoyed at Mootigeal, was not of a long duration; it was soon interrupted by a Mr. Burgh, a gentleman in the Company's service, who, about the month of February, 1771, was appointed head-paymaster of the brigade to which I belonged. As many of the gentlemen with whom he was most connected, lived in that part of the country where I was stationed, he applied to the

Governor, who was his particular friend, for leave to order me to Calcutta, that he might supply my place with the second batallion, whilst I should supply his with the first. As soon as I received orders to return to Calcutta, I communicated them to Mr. Barwell, who seemed no less confounded than I was surprized at them. He perswaded me to sollicit the Council for leave to remain where I was, and assured me, that no assistance that he could give should be wanting to prevent Mr. Burgh from getting me removed. In obedience to his will, I submitted my pretensions to the Burrampore station, in the following letter, which I addressed to Governor and Council.

Hon. Sir and Sirs,

As I should be extremely concerned for any inadvertency that might expose me to the censure of my superiors, I take the liberty to send for your information the inclosed extracts of letters to and from the pay-master of the second Brigade.

In

In the time of the late Mr. Hutchinson I was appointed his deputy; and by the pay-master general's orders to pay the division of the brigade to which Mr. Ham was attached; and when the other division under the particular charge of the pay-master proceeded to Calcutta, I was directed to accompany my division, in order to march to Burrampore. And I have ever since my first appointment in general orders of October, continued to discharge my duty, with that division. As no public reasons are advanced in Mr. Burgh's letter, who, with his appointment of the pay-mastership, received charge of that division of the brigade under former pay-masters, for my removal, I submit to your consideration the propriety of my being called from my station, and the consistency of Mr. Burgh's leaving his charge, without any public occasion requiring the change; a change under circumstances, it is possible may appear to you to proceed from Mr. Burgh's fancying and preferring to pay the division of the brigade, I  
am

am now and have been in charge of, from the time of my first appointment; a change repugnant to the orders I received from the pay-master-general, which stationed me with that division of the brigade; a change to be attended with expence to the honourable Company, by the necessary contingencies allowed to and drawn by pay-masters and their deputies, on their moving from one station to another; a change that cannot be attended with any advantage to the public service, but is liable to all the inconveniences that have been experienced by the frequent shifting of the charge of public trusts. I have said all this as may possibly appear to your honourable board, on the change Mr. Burgh wants to effect. I therefore with the greatest submission and respect, submit it to your pleasure, whether I shall leave my station at Burrampore, and repair to the presidency, because Mr. Burgh commands it; or whether I shall continue in my present station, and discharge the trust I have held from my first appointment



ment in general orders, and act agreeable to the orders of the pay-master-general.

I am,

Hon. Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

5 April 1771. HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

THE result did not answer my expectations ; for I was at last ordered by the pay-master-general to return to Calcutta. I remarked previous to my return, that my removal gave Mr. Barwell uncommon uneasiness, which I attributed either to the sincerity and warmth of his friendship for me, or to the mortification his pride must have felt, at finding that his influence had been lost with his seat in the Council. I was wrong however in both, as I soon after discovered. His views made my presence at Mootigeal absolutely necessary ; he therefore resolved at all events to defeat, if possible, the design of Mr. Burgh. He recommended me most warmly to Mr. Read (who was of the Council) gave me reason to believe I should,

should, through that gentleman's interest, soon obtain leave to return to my battalion, and insisted, that if I succeeded, I should not delay a moment to return to Burrampore.

WITH these instructions I left Mootigeal, and on my arrival at Calcutta, lost no time to wait on Mr. Read. I learned from him, that " a military committee  
 " would sit within a few days, to whose  
 " consideration my pretensions should be  
 " submitted, if I persevered in my reso-  
 " lution to lay my letter before them." But at the same time he candidly told me, that as Mr. Burgh's interest was stronger than mine, a contest with him would probably injure me instead of promoting my desire; he therefore recommended it to me to withdraw my letter, and promised to use his good offices with the Governor, to do away the bad impressions which my opposition to his friend had given him of me. I saw that Mr. Barwell's interest was not sufficient to support me against the  
 Governor,

Governor, and being fully aware of the imprudence of exposing myself to the danger of incurring the displeasure of the Council, I was thoroughly convinced in my own mind, that to withdraw my pretensions would be the most prudent step I could take ; I was determined however not to proceed without my patron's approbation ; and immediately after my conference with Mr. Read, I sent a letter to Mootigeal, with a plain state of the affair, and in it I asked the advice of my friend, assuring him that such was my respect for him, that let his advice be what it might, I would most implicitly follow it. To my letter I received the following answer.

S I R.

I AM favoured by your address, intimating your introduction to Mr. Read, by Mr. Cator, and what past on the subject of your letter to the Governor and Council, desiring my sentiments, whether you should persist, or request permission

to withdraw the application you had made. To make such a request in my opinion will betray a weakness, and at the same time can answer no end but to oblige Mr. Burgh, whose kind behaviour to you does not merit such consideration. Let the matter rest with the Council, and leave it to the gentlemen, either to redress what you deem an injury, or to pass it over, for in my judgment you ought not to trouble yourself further about the letter. On reading the occurrences of the garrison of Fort William for April, I do not find that the least notice is taken of Mr. Burgh's quitting his station in Calcutta, to proceed to Burrampore; if therefore he has done it of his own private authority, and intimated to Mr. Maxwell, the \* M P M G, that he had authority for quitting his station, I should suppose his conduct would be severely reprehended by the Board; not only for quitting in the manner he has done, when he knew your pretensions to the Burrampore station had been submitted

\* Military Pay-master General.

to



to the decision of the Board, but for deceiving the M P M G, who supposing him to be warranted by proper authority to leave Calcutta, directed you to repair thither, to take upon you the charge Mr. Burgh quitted. However this may be, I will on no account recommend to you, to withdraw your letter, for I think it should stand. And if the matter should be settled to your satisfaction, you had better leave Calcutta immediately. I beg my compliments to the ladies:

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

RICH. BARWELL.

THE will of my friend was to me a law; to his advice I sacrificed my own judgment, and what was more, my interest. I persevered in my resolution to take the opinion of the military committee on my pretensions to the Burrampore station, to the great displeasure of the Governor and Council, who suppressed my  
letter,

letter, without referring it to the committee, and who, in the moment of their repentment, condemned me unheard, to remain with the first battalion at Calcutta. Here it is necessary to observe, that I could have no other inducement to remain at Burrampore in preference to Calcutta, but that which arose from a desire to gratify my friend, who seemed desirous to retain me with him; and my gratitude made me think it a duty to indulge a man, who had procured me the station I had filled, and generously gave me his house to live in. On the other hand, Calcutta had many more charms for me. By residing there, I could enjoy the agreeable company of my wife and sister. I should be nearer to the fountain head of preferment, and on the spot to seize every favourable opportunity as it rose. It will be allowed likewise, that by submitting implicitly to the will of the Governor and Council, I should have made them my friends; at least I should not have had them for enemies. My opposition provoked

evoked their resentment, and that was more than sufficient to crush an individual.

My readers will probably labour under the same mistake that I did, when I attributed the support I met with from Mr. Barwell to friendship and generosity. It did not strike me at the time, that it was rather novel and surprizing to see a gentleman of his rank espouse so warmly the interests of an individual, an absolute stranger, and quite unrecommended to him. The same observation may have escaped my readers; I must therefore beg leave to undeceive them, and satisfy them, that Mr. Barwell is indebted to them, as he was to me, for a good opinion of him, when his actions deserve the worst. To this end, I must request they will carry their attention a little backward.

My readers will recollect, that while I was on my voyage to China, my wife and sister had arrived in Bengal. My return was in February, 1770; their arrival

D

in

in October 1769. During the intermediate space of time, my attorney, Captain Cox had, according to my direction, furnished a house for them at a great expence; provided a palanquin for my wife, and every thing else that was necessary to make her residence comfortable and agreeable. This can be proved by the original bill and receipt of Captain Cox, now in my possession. That time might not sit heavy on her, the above gentleman took care to introduce her into all the polite circles of Calcutta, as Mrs. Thompson; and as such she was well received. On some visiting party, previous to my return from China, her beauty had made a deep impression on Mr. Barwell, and he was a man of too much gallantry (though bound by his rank of member of the Council to set a good example) to have the least qualm of conscience at deliberately setting about seducing a wife (for such he thought her) from her husband. He made and cultivated an acquaintance with her before I had ever seen him, and before I  
had



had returned from Canton. It was in consequence of this acquaintance that he was assiduous in paying visits at my house, where it was my misfortune to have first known him. He had already, it seems, made some impressions on Mrs. Thompson; and as it was necessary for the success of his amours to make me his friend, and to prevent suspicion, he resolved to take me under his protection. This accounts very naturally for the readiness with which he met my first advances to cultivate his esteem. Two things more must be accounted for, my wife's unwillingness to accompany me to Burrampore, and the eagerness with which Mr. Barwell endeavoured to keep me with him at Mootigeal, after having before so readily agreed to procure me an establishment that must necessarily send me from him. To begin with the latter I must observe, that while Mr. Barwell continued at the Board, his residence was at Calcutta; and as the presence of a husband might be a check on his amours, he *piously* lent a

hand to remove me : to concur with his views Mrs. Thompson determined to remain at Calcutta, that she might not be deprived of the company of a man, who began to be agreeable to her. Her vanity, no doubt, was gratified at her conquest, and she was resolved to draw from it every advantage that it promised her. When Mr. Barwell lost his seat in Council, and was obliged to quit Calcutta, to reside at Mootigeal, he formed the design of having Mrs. Thompson to live there with him. This was the object he had in view, when he insisted, *generously* as I thought, that I should make his house my home, that in the end I might myself be a cloak for his base and treacherous designs. He knew, that if I should return to Calcutta, he could have no plausible pretext for inviting Mrs. Thompson to Mootigeal, and therefore he advised me to write to the Council, and he himself dictated that very letter which gained me the displeasure of the Governor, and afterwards recommended it to me to persevere in submit-

submitting my pretensions to the committee, contrary to the advice of *my* friends, contrary to that of *his* friends, who were not acquainted with his designs, and contrary to the dictates of my own judgment. That his real intention was to have Mrs. Thompson at Mootigeal, is clear from almost all his letters, particularly from that, wherein he informs her, that he had caused four closets to be fitted up in particular for her. This therefore, in my opinion, discharges me from every tie of gratitude to him, as it is evident, that in all he did for me, he had an eye to his own convenience, not mine; and that he was selfish enough, the better to promote his purposes, to make me expose myself to the enmity of the Governor and Council, which, in other words, was to sacrifice to him all my future prospects in life, which could be forwarded but by the very Council that he had forced me to offend.

It is now a matter of surprize to me, that I could remain as long as I did un-

suspicious of my wife's fidelity ; nothing but the blind confidence I reposed in her gratitude and attachment, and the high opinion I had of Mr. Barwell's honour, could have prevented me from seeing, that I had long been the dupe of two designing persons, who had conspired to ruin my happiness, and cover me with dishonour ; but I believe I never should have discovered their perfidy, if a mere accident had not opened my eyes.

On my return to Calcutta, I continued to discharge my duty as pay-master, at the house of Mr. Barwell, which was then occupied by a Mr. Cator, who acted as agent to my friend. Mrs. Thompson resided with me ; but such a change did I perceive in her behaviour to me, that I was absolutely astonished ; and the more so, as I was unconscious of ever having given cause for it. She received me with a cold affected embrace, which mortified me ; and as I saw her indifference continue, notwithstanding all my tender assiduities



duities to remove it, I soon felt, that all the happiness which I flattered myself I should enjoy in the company of my lovely friend, was merely ideal; it was vanished. I endeavoured to find out the cause, and I began to suppose her coldness had arisen from my delay to make her my wife: I wished to bestow on her that name; but found myself not a little embarrassed on that head by the custom of the settlement of Calcutta. There it is usual, nay, in some measure necessary, in order to give a legal sanction to matrimony, to obtain the Governor's licence to be married. I would willingly have applied for leave, but for one objection; the Governor and the whole settlement supposed me married; and I could not apply for a licence, without exposing myself to the consequences of having offended the pride of the settlers, by imposing on them my mistress for my wife. I wished to gratify Mrs. Thompson's desires; but I wished also not to provoke the resentment of the settlement. Between my love and my

prudence I found myself in a dilemma, from which I knew not how to extricate myself. An incident however happened, which soon put an end to my difficulty on this head, though at the same time it plunged me into the deepest distress of mind. One evening, while I sat musing on the step that it would be proper for me to take, I, by mere chance, saw Mr. Cator slyly slip a letter into her hand. I then, for the first time, felt suspicion in my breast. I then doubted her fidelity, but could not conceive, as yet, who could be the man who had supplanted me in her affections. As for Mr. Barwell, I never once thought of him; I would not for the world have wounded his honour by suspecting that he could be villain enough *deliberately* to disgrace and ruin his *friend*. I was resolved, if possible, to discover the writer of the letter I had seen delivered to Mrs. Thompson, and to my unspeakable surprize, the following letters fell into my hands, from which I was soon convinced, that I had respected my friend

friend for virtues, to which he was not only a stranger, but an enemy. \*

My dearest Madam,

THIS very instant, and not before, I received your obliging letter of the 5th, and I am sorry to say I am still in anxious suspense about your husband's stay, and cannot yet tell whether I shall be able to keep him here or not. I understand Mr. *Burgh* is using all his interest with his friends to send him up to Burrampore, and to order Mr. Thompson to Calcutta, which should he effect, all my prospects of felicity vanish at once. No dear Mrs. Thompson am I then to expect to see here, to render my situation agreeable to me, nor a hope of those joys beauty only can bestow. What a cruel disappoint-

\* As some of these letters are dated from Patna, it is necessary to inform the reader, that about five or six months after Mr. Thompson left Mootigeal to return to Calcutta, Mr. Barwell had been removed from the Derbar, and promoted to the government of Patna.

ment!

ment! O how unkind shall I think my fortune if that should be the case; and O how will my mind be distracted in absence! Every thing then that is disagreeable, or can give me pain, will immediately occur to me. I shall fancy you every instant in the arms of your husband, and bestowing on him those kisses which I wish alone to enjoy. But as that is not my lot, why should I repine? His kisses and embraces, were they not agreeable to you, you would not accept, and whilst they afford you pleasure, why should I complain, or desire to deprive you of them? I blame you not, my dear girl! Nature is the same in us all, nor must you blame me because I am a little jealous of the happiness of your husband. All men wish to engross the affections of the woman they love, and they consequently wish the woman they love to be incapable of receiving any pleasure but from them. This is a human infirmity, and the cause of those violent passions which spring from jealousy. Heaven protect me from  
 jealousy;



jealousy ; yet though I grieve for the privilege of a husband, I will bear it as becomes a man who wishes you too well to desire you to do any thing that may prove your love to him at the total loss of reputation. No; my dear, dear madam, I will never ask any sacrifice to my peace that shall sink your name in the opinion of the world. I love you, I wish you was with me, and your husband at a distance ; but I can never bear the thought of your being decried by your own sex and mine. I know it would make you unhappy ; is it possible then that I could be easy ? I am certain I could not. I love you too tenderly to be unaffected by your unhappiness. Remember me, as I remember you. I am,

My dear Madam,

Your most affectionate,

March 8, 1771. RICH. BARWELL;

My

My dearest Madam,

IF you love, you may easily imagine how welcome your letters are to me ; and believe me, I would sooner receive a line from you, on the most trifling subject, than the best penned production that wit or humour can possibly boast. To know, to be told I am remembered and esteemed by you, touches the affections of my heart, which instantly tells me, what is there on earth so valuable, so much to be wished for, as the tender regard of the woman we love ? And that I love you, I think my dear Madam you need not be told,—and yet must I continue thus in absence to wish to desire your company ? Is it not possible for you to come ? What a question ! As if I could not answer it myself ! I have received yours, dated the 13th. What a strange, what a ridiculous woman must Mrs. Wedderburn appear to the world ; without a reason, first to decline visiting you, and again to solicit your acquaintance as lightly. I do not know  
what

what to think of it, or how it has been brought about. To me her conduct is perfectly unaccountable, as well as your friend Sanderſon. But as love is capable of aſſuming a thouſand different ſhapes to obtain its end, Sanderſon, I make no doubt, wiſhes to ſtartle you, or coax you to drop your connexion with me, for the greater enjoyment his age and diſcretion are capable of affording you! Should his arts prevail (which I pray to Heaven they may not) I ſhould lament my fortune in ſilence, but ſhall not deſiſt from wiſhing you every happineſs in life. Since I left you, I have often been inclining to deſcribe to you the pleaſing dreams my amorous fancy has formed in your abſence, warm and luxuriant as are the thoughts of young men. Your lovely image frequently filled my arms at night, and as I wiſhed to inform you of the dear viſion, and did not know how to do it, my genius whiſpered me — Recite it in verſe, as the moſt unexceptionable way.

The

The DREAM, and a PRAYER to  
LOVE, to make it true.

Mrs. THOMPSON,

THOU lovely cause of all my pain,  
Of thee I boast, of thee complain !  
By day thou art my darling theme,  
By night my wish'd-for, dearest dream ;  
*Then* fancy gives what fate denies,  
And every recent joy supplies ;  
Restores thee back with all thy charms,  
Incircled in my youthful arms :  
Then, how my heart exulting beats !  
I gaze, I ravish all thy sweets ;  
My busy hands all parts explore,  
I feel and feel thee o'er and o'er.  
Instant my lips to thine I press,  
And please thee with the fond excess.  
Till kindling with your lover's fires,  
You burn with equal, fond desires,  
And yielding in love's dear contest,  
You strive, by *blessing* to be *blest*,  
Till lost, absorb'd in dear delight,  
Each object dazzles on the sight.

And



And through our trembling pulses move,  
 The mighty transports known to love.  
 Then, then, in sobs which touch the heart,  
 Ten thousand joys we each impart ;  
 Then closer clasp, as if we'd be  
 One body, soul, eternally ;  
 Till lost in rapt'rous agony,  
 We palpitate with extacy.

And all convuls'd, the murm'ring sighs, )  
 The heart felt shudder, turn'd-up eyes, }  
 Close the sweet act, and pleasure dies. }

For ever could I wish to be  
 Wrapt in the pleasing lethargy,  
 Where lively fancy leaps all bounds,  
 And traverses enchantments grounds ;  
 But, that deny'd day intervenes,  
 To tear me from th' enraptur'd scenes.  
 Waked, I in vain would sleep again,  
 In vain the vision would retain :

From day your lovely phantom flies, }  
 Eludes my grasp, cheats my fond eyes, }  
 And leaves me to my miseries. }

The

The PRAYER to LOVE.

THOU mighty pow'r whose genial  
fway,

Nature does through her works obey,  
Whose influence the world controuls,  
Who bend't in sympathy our souls !  
With pity view the suppliant bend,  
And to my wish and pray'r attend.  
See with uplifted hands I sue,  
A respite from tormenting woe ;  
Then mock not at my wretchedness,  
With vision'd scenes of happiness,  
But clear my gloomy brow of care,  
And to my arms, O give the fair !

The APOLOGY.

If aught I've wrote, by you be deem'd amiss,  
Forgive the freedom of a lover's pen,  
Whose mem'ry paints the dear departed bliss,  
And, still tenacious, does each joy retain.  
Think not the distance that divides us two,  
Think on my love that would thy breast in-  
flame,  
Think that I wish'd to be re-blest in you,  
And this the means to keep alive the flame.

So

So shall you pardon each licentious line,  
 Each am'rous thought depicted in my lay,  
 So smiling own a love that equals mine,  
 And constancy with constancy repay.

Here does the Muse her pleasing labour end,  
 And fondly take a lover's dear adieu !  
 Bids health, peace, pleasure on your life attend,  
 Uncloying blifs, and joys for ever new.

R. B.

You perceive, my dear Madam, how much you are in my thoughts, and that my love alone is blameable for writing this long letter. I hope Mr. Burgh will not come up at last. Then come, my dear Madam, as soon as you can inform yourself whether Mr. Burgh can get out of Calcutta, or not. I have ordered four closets to be made to my apartments for your convenience and accommodation. Once more adieu ! Happiness attend you.

I am,

My dearest Madam,

Your most affectionate,

March 16, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

E

My

My dearest Madam,

SINCE writing to you the other day I am made happy by your kind and affectionate letter, proposing a visit to your devoted friend. My wishes lead me to urge the accomplishment of your favourable intentions ; for nothing can be a greater happiness than to see you here and clasp you to my breast, yet I fear to urge it further than I have already, lest the censorious of your own sex should, by their cursed prattle give you pain ; the sense of which might possibly leave you little, very little relish for the company of your lover in such a state of mind. Supposing you to be affected by the breath of scandal, for people will talk. Can I expect to find the indearing tenderness that speaks the heart to be wholly ingrossed by love ? If I cannot find it, oh ! do not come. I would rather be uneasy myself, than have you uneasy. But should love (as you tell it is) be so much my friend as to make you despise the word discre-



discretion, which was never the friend of love ; I say, if you *can* despise the gossiping of your own sex, come and take me to your arms, and let us pass the hours in soft dalliance and joyous transports. But I talk as if there was no check, as if you could be wholly mine. O painful thought! you are another's. My bliss is stolen. He knows it not, and therefore feels not the anguish of heart I experienced when with my eyes I followed him to the chamber door, and saw him enter it after you. Imagination paints the rest, and cruelly torments me with ideas that make me a stranger to sleep : and, as I love you to excess, my feelings on such occasions are not to be wondered at. For though I submit to the sacrifice you make to Mr. T. it is impossible I can think of it with patience. I yield to necessity, because your tranquility demands it. In my last letter I said a few days would determine whether Mr. Burgh is or is not to stay in Calcutta. As you will receive earlier intelligence how that is settled by the gen-

tllemen of the Council, than I can possibly hear it, be so good as to take measures for your visit to Mootigeal, and may every blessing attend you, dearest lovely woman, is the ardent wish of,

Your most affectionate,

Mootigeal,  
April 7.

RICH. BARWELL,

My dearest Madam,

I HAVE read, over and over again, your favour of the 7th, and the more I examine it the more I am perplexed; what expressions have I used in any of my letters to make you question the ardour of my love; because I am so unhappily situated, that I cannot execute my intentions of going to Calcutta, am I culpable? Surely my dear Madam, you have no just reason to heighten my chagrin at the disappointment I experience. Is it not a misfortune sufficient to have been deprived of your company, and to perceive the prospect I had of seeing you soon, more distant than I imagined, surely it is. Do not then add

to it by taxing me with indifference. Good God! what a word! what a thought! It is impossible you could seriously imagine such a thing; indeed it is unkind;— You do my affections great wrong, and your own beauties great injustice, look in your glass; it will convince you, you have charms capable of warming old age. Can a young man be indifferent to them. Look at my actions, and those will convince you I have more love than prudence. I have exerted all my endeavours to effect the wish of my heart, and I have drawn upon myself, in the attempt to keep your husband here, all that malevolence could invent to prejudice me in the estimation of my friends. Now in promoting what end; (answer me) have I been so much the town's talk? Was it not to be blest with your company; to gaze with pleasure on you, and to enjoy the sweet, the ineffable delight of holding you to my heart? And in the height of transport that cannot be described, my soul, highest wish has been your bliss. And how

could it be otherwise? I owed to your kindness the most desirable blessing of life, and my grateful mind was anxious to repay it. I hope I have said sufficient to satisfy you of my love, and I at present wait with impatience to know the result of your husband's letter to the Governor and Council, I hope they will not order him to go to Calcutta; but of this I am doubtful. He has certainly right on his side; but as he has written to Mr. Burgh in an improper manner, it is probable the letter may be used to his disadvantage. I wish he had shewed it to me before he sent it. However I flatter myself Burgh will not see the advantage he has, and as Mr. T. has promised to send no letters in future, without my seeing and proving them, another advantage will not be giving to him. What you mention about the house would be true, if there was any person inclined to hire it, whilst there is not, and I cannot let it, what difference does it make to me? But I believe there may be something more in  
 what



what you propose than I am acquainted with. Has Mr. Cator done any thing to disoblige you? I should be concerned to hear he has, because I wish him well, and am his friend.

I am, my dearest,

Your affectionate and sincere,

April 10, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

My dearest Madam,

MUST I then no longer entertain the hope of seeing you? Does Mr. Burgh's coming up to Burrampore preclude me entirely your company? Or have you a wish, a love superior to every other consideration? However, if you have, I should be ungenerous or unkind to desire or expect a sacrifice that must render your situation unsatisfactory, and put a bar to your wishes of being high in the estimation of the world. Well then, if Mr. T. must go down, and there is no remedy, I must bear my lot with all the philosophy I can call to my assistance; for really the trial

is severe. My concern I need not express. If you love, you may easily imagine the disagreeableness of my situation, and the uneasiness I must feel at the prospect of Mr. T's happiness. My reason for asking you whether Mr. Cator had disoblged you, was the desire you expressed to take a house on Mr. T's arrival at Calcutta.

I am, my dearest,

Your affectionate,

April 20, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

My dearest Madam,

MY hopes are now no more. Mr. T. leaves this place in a day or two for Calcutta; I have only then to wish you every felicity, and to try to be easy under my present circumstances. The danger and difficulty of sending letters to you after Mr. T's arrival will prevent my paying my respects so often as I have hitherto done. I will write to Mr. Imhoff about the picture, and wish you not to forget the promise you made me of yours in return;

turn; I shall desire Mr. T. to let Mr. Kettle take your likeness, and to send it to me when finished. Once more I wish you every happiness, and am,

My dearest,

Your most affectionate,

Mootigeal,  
April 24, 71.

R. BARWELL.

My dear, dear Madam,

ALMOST from the time I was obliged with the last letter from your fair hand, I have been indisposed with a most severe cold, accompanied by a smart fever. This has been partly the occasion of my not expressing my acknowledgments to you before, for the friendly consideration you have shewn in favouring me with so frank a declaration of your sentiments on a subject extremely interesting to the lively affections of a heart much devoted to you in all things. As this is the case, you cannot but suppose that the reflections you have made on the sacrifice, your love influenced you to  
make

make to my ardent passion fill me with a severe anxiety; but as to myself, condemnation can neither acquit me or you of an error, if it is an error to love; let us, in the name of Cupid, banish every disagreeable idea, and dwell only on the sweet extatic blessings that flow from the delightful gratifications of our loves; desires implanted in us by providence, have always been esteemed innocent of themselves, under proper regulations; and, as they do not depend on ourselves, we must be sensible, that our passions are given us to answer some great end in nature; and, as no human laws whatever can shackle the affections of the mind, when those impel us irresistibly, let us remember this truth, — “ That what-  
 “ ever *is*, is for the *best*,” and promotes imperceptibly either a *general* or *partial* good.” — I shall always with gratitude remember the happiness for which I am indebted to your kindness; and when (but that will never be) I shall forget the obligations you have conferred;  
 may



may I prove an outcast, and never again be made happy in your embraces.—You tell me you are glad to find my whole happiness does not depend on your compliance with my unreasonable request, which you once thought it did; farther you say, you perceive I am your sincere friend and well-wisher. Unkind, dear woman, why these disagreeable insinuations?—Because my sincere love will not suffer me to prejudice you by considering myself alone at your expence, you infer, my happiness does not depend upon you; surely I should be very little worthy of your affections, if I could not suffer anxiety for your sake, and that I do suffer, you cannot doubt. Where is the lover who knows his mistress fills the arms of another, and is a stranger to the severest pangs of jealousy, and the most heart-rending anguish; certainly, there is no such a man. The feelings of men are the same, and it is with the utmost difficulty I restrain myself from requesting you to fly for ever from the man whom  
you

you every night embrace. But I am  
 iwayed by consideration for *you* alone, and  
 would suffer ten times more to make you  
 happy, or preserve your name in the respect  
 of the world. I have almost come to the  
 end of my paper before I was aware;  
 heaven preserve you! I propose to hold  
 you to my heart before the end of this  
 month. I wrote to the Governor for per-  
 mission to visit Calcutta by the Dawks.\*  
 Do not speak to any one of my inten-  
 tions, as I would not have them to sup-  
 pose I wrote to you. Adieu! my dearest  
 Madam,

Your most affectionate and sincere,  
 August 11, 1771. R. BARWELL.

My dearest Madam,

I WAS much hurried when I replied to  
 your letter last night, and this is the first  
 hour that I have been without some trou-  
 blefome visitor to wish me well, and as-  
 sure me how glad they are to see me,  
 when, if the truth was known, they con-  
 cern themselves as much about my wel-  
 fare

\* Post.

fare as the chair now before me. I hate all such grimaces, professions of esteem, respect and love, made without any known sufficient cause to excite men to make them, disgusts me extremely. But at the same time I dislike all attempts to flatter me into a belief of an attachment to me. I see no reason for, I am extremely hurt when I find not my affection returned with equal warmth by those whose love I wish to possess. The coldness of your letter therefore (you may imagine) has given me much pain. When I write to you, (be it on the most trifling occasion) some of the tender emotions of my heart are visible in some part or other of my letters addressed by me to you; you'll find expressions full of tenderness and love. Believe me, I scarcely ever think of you but with a sensibility of past delight. And, while I regret severely the loss of those delights, all your beauties strike my imagination, and torment me at once with jealousy and envy. Such are my feelings when absent from you.

If

if then you regard me with the passion you have at times given me reason to think ; you entertain for me, (unworthy as I am) why will you not indulge me, by telling me over and over again, how much you love? Repetitions of this nature are always grateful to those who are inspired with a tender attachment, as they must anxiously wish to find it prove reciprocal. Although I wish and hope I am most dear to you, whatever I may imagine otherwise, it would ill become me to blame or reproach you for a change, for as the affections of the mind are involuntary, an object may appear to you more deserving of them than the man your present partiality has been pleased to distinguish. In these sentiments, though I may lament a revolution in your heart, as the greatest misfortune that could befall me, yet I would not have you keep me in ignorance of it when it shall happen. Write to me how you pass your time, and who pays their compliments to you ; and not only that, but I would know whether you sleep  
with



with miss, or in your own room, every afternoon and night. It is a truth (for I feel it) that I am concerned in every thing that concerns you. Yet believe me, I desire nothing less than to deprive you of any pleasure you would enjoy, although I wish to know what pleases you. Adieu! every joy await you.

I am, my dearest Madam,

Your affectionate and sincere admirer,

Sept. 18, 1771.

My dearest Madam,

I TAKE up the pen without having a subject either amusing or instructive to write to you upon. A leisure hour, and that inclination which I have to be always present in your mind, are my only incitements. I fear however that this my desire to be ever in your memory will neither preserve me in it, nor secure to me your affections. When I was last with you, ask yourself, did you entertain me with that warmth which marked our first acquaintance? You are conscious you did  
not.

not. I did not, however, chuse to observe it to you at the time, because I was willing to be as happy as I could, and because I should have been less satisfied, if upon any word from me you appeared to affect a greater pleasure in my company than you had shewn before I spoke to you. A discerning lover watches every tender emotion of his mistress's heart. Her submission to his embraces, believe me, my dear Madam, does not complete his wishes; for, as his chiefest and most sublime pleasure depends on his power of communicating bliss to the beloved fair one, he feels a disappointment when he experiences that to the warmest raptures she returns not equal ardours, but can be languid and half indifferent in the midst of the most extatic enjoyments. Possibly I complain without a just cause; if I do, you have been unkind both to me and to yourself. Rectify then, at our next meeting, this mistake; for know, that when you give a loose to all the overflowings of your heart, and are lost in the sweetest



they have still their disquietudes. I remember, in the height of my felicity, when I ought to have been satisfied and submitted to my fortune with the mind of a man, how like a fool I have suffered my imaginations to be disturbed by every little noise I have heard in the next room to me has gone to my heart. I have bit my lips, tossed, tumbled, shifted my pillow a hundred times, and yet in dispute of all the reason I pretend to, I have been unable to compose myself to sleep, until mere weariness and vexation have closed my eyes. This really is a just picture of what my affections for you has made me suffer often and often, when I was in Calcutta; and yet I would not ease my heart of such an oppressive load, by influencing you to be entirely mine. No! I would rather continue to suffer than lower you in the opinion of the world. A great judge of human kind, speaking of the pleasures and glories on which men and women place such value, says,

“ Abstract



" Abstract what others feel, what others think;  
 " All pleasures sicken, and all glories sink."

As if no pleasure and no glory could be enjoyed, if we had not the approbation of others. I am well in health; I reached this place in the evening. In four days more I may arrive at Patna. Let me hear from you often, and continue me your most tender friendship.

I am, my dearest,

Your most affectionate,

Boglepore,  
 Oct. 4, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

My dearest Madam,

I DARE say you'll think me extremely troublesome; and imagine you have some reason to find fault with the restlessness of my temper, when you understand my mind is still very far from being easy. The letter you have favoured me with, is indeed more kind in its superscription than the former one; yet I still am unsatisfied. Some points which my heart dwells upon as material ones, are not so

F 2

much

much as noticed by you. I am the more hurt by this, because a letter speaks without subjecting to the confusion of blushes, and, of course, gives us a latitude to pour out the fond effusions of the heart. You ask me if I can doubt that I am most dear to you? I can only answer to such a question, that I *wish* to be most dear to you. Whether I *am* or not, you my dear friend must be the better judge; men are easily mistaken, and too apt to flatter themselves that what they desire may be, is really as they wish.—I propose to leave this place in the evening,—being environed with visitors, I am necessitated to make this as short as possible. Remember me as I remember you. Farewel.

I am, my dearest Madam,

Your most affectionate friend.

Mungheer,  
Oct. 7, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

My

My dearest Madam,

SINCE the receipt of your last letter, I have often looked at those which preceded it. I thought them kind and affectionate. My short answer which I do not suppose you have received, will point out to you how much you distressed by what you were pleased to write me relative to the picture; in which instance I frankly must own myself to be culpable; for I ought most undoubtedly to have written to Mr. T. in reply to his address. Whether you shall think me deserving of forgiveness for such an omission, I cannot tell. There is a degree of displeasure so striking in your letter, that I almost fear you are offended with me, though, believe me, I never meant to give you offence. But as from trifles, misunderstandings have been occasioned betwixt the sincerest lovers, I could wish to hear from you as soon as possible. To have my fears dispelled by some expressions of kindness. Love, I have heard,

has a good memory. You cannot surely then have forgot what you lately said to me. The words of your letter are these, " Let me beg you'll make yourself perfectly happy, if it is in my power to make you so. Desire what you please, I will not refuse it, nor say it is unkind, because I will not believe that reason and inclination do not always go together." I do not know whether you can seriously mean, by expressing yourself in this manner, to answer my utmost wishes ; but believe me, my dear, you have almost encouraged me to make a request that I am apt to think you would not have complied with, or if complied with, would have exposed me to the resentment of Mr. T—, and to the reproaches of the world ; and that would have involved you by the loss of reputation and character, and I confess I have too much affection for you, should that ever be the case, not to have constant uneasiness arising from the thought of your esteeming me to be the cause of  
your



your being low in the opinion of the world. I have marked, dear woman, in your temper a degree of pride, that cannot bear the contempt of the censorious. You feel every little sneer; and even on the footing on which you have hitherto indulged me with familiarity, answer me truly, have you not sometimes thought you sacrificed too much for me? and that all the endearments of love were but a poor requital, to obliterate from your mind the pain you felt from the unkind, ungenerous manner in which your conduct was aspersed by the ill-natured part of your own sex? If it were so, then how would it be, when an imprudent compliance with my wishes, put it beyond your power ever to regain the estimation in which you wished to be held by the world. You know not how long I might be dear to you, for love is not in our own option. *You* might be unhappy, and I should be upbraided. I will not therefore ask it, however much I may wish, or be anxious for your company. You may

have heard that I had hopes of going, and very shortly, to Calcutta, but all those hopes are now vanished ; I am obliged, on account of public commission, to postpone my intention of seeing my friends.

Your very affectionate,

My dearest Madam,

I THANK you for the many letters with which you have indulged me. Ask yourself if you have not been very kind to a very good for nothing fellow ? I dare say you'll think you have, and that I have all the reason in the world to be satisfied with the affections you bear to me. Well then, I must not complain ; I will please you, and no more chide you for your silence ; but remember, I claim the same privilege, and though I confess it will be a restraint upon me, not to write to you when I have a leisure minute, and regretting past times, and thinking of the many blessings I have enjoyed in the possession of your beauties, yet will I sooner bite  
off

off my fingers than trouble you with a letter. Now, how I could curse ! What a hard fortune is mine ! Must the woman I love be obliged to submit herself to the embraces of such a man as Mr. T. never was beauty so ill matched, and passion like mine so ill requited ; yet I endure all, and more than I can bear ; for I endure not a man, but one who has the mere outside, a most uncouth semblance of humanity, a downright man-machine to enjoy my mistress, the darling of my heart and pleasure of my eyes, on whom I could gaze all day with ineffable delight, and to give all pleasure to whom is the greatest, chiefest, happiness of my life. Indeed I love you most dearly. It is true I said you had your sex's arts, and I had reason to say so. When I first professed my regard, I hoped to find you a woman ; if you have proved such, do you think you are the less dear to me. — With all your faults, you are most near to my heart. For my sake then, do not kiss Mr. T—, except when you are compelled

pelled to it. Reflect, time and use ruins the most brilliant beauty ; and that to preserve the pregnancy of your charms, your lover should think they have been wasted away in delights for him, and not for another.

I am, my dearest,

Your most affectionate,

Patna,  
Oct, 13, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

My dearest,

MY last will inform you of the uneasiness I felt at your silence ; and proceeding indifference. Your letter, which is just received, you may therefore imagine was most welcome. There is, nevertheless, a something that dwells upon my mind, which gives me, at times, more or less anxiety, for with all the assumed ease, and the inclination I have to preserve to you the respect of the world, I should not be a man, if I could view with unconcern the woman I love, in the  
arms



arms of another ; it is therefore in you a kindness to attempt to sooth the anguish I feel. The sacrifice I make to discretion, and which proceeds from my estimating your peace of mind, above any selfish consideration, should render me surely more dear to you ; for if I considered myself alone, I should not have hesitated a moment to take advantage of your compliance. Your tenderness, your beauty and my passion all coincided to intoxicate my senses, and push me to desire a separation between T. and you, (which my reason approved,) but, as I said before, I chose rather to suffer than by blessing myself with a companion so dearly beloved as you are by me, to deprive you of many little enjoyments and pleasures which arise from society, and which when lost, might have been severely felt and regretted. The heart is by no means to be trusted ; when in possession of most things, it wishes for what appears trifling, and we think we can easily part with ; no sooner do we lose it, than we are immediately

mediately sensible it constituted a part of our happiness. Believe me, my dear, it requires a degree of firmness and philosophy to be blessed in our own opinions only, as Mr. Pope has very justly remarked.

“ Abstract what others feel, what others think,”  
 “ All pleasures sicken, and all glories sink ;  
 “ Nor virtue male or female we can name,  
 “ But what will grow on pride, or grow on  
 “ shame,”

If this is the case, and I should see your countenance clouded with discontent, and a secret repining at the sacrifice you had made to gratify my passion, by withdrawing yourself from Mr. T. and the world ; do you think I could have been pleased ? The felicity of lovers depend on each other ; and all the pleasures that endear human life, there is none equal to the power of pleasing. How then should I lament, if I found you whom I have the greatest ambition to see happy, receive my endearments with a heart pained by the world's neglect ; I break off  
 abruptly,

abruptly, because my company call me to attend them at supper. It must have been by some accident that my letter fell into Mr. Debuke's hands; for I have always inclosed them to Mr. Cator. Farewell, remember, when you are in company with Mr. T. behave as if you were absent. Continue to think of me by day, by night, want me, dream of me, expect me, wish for me, be wholly with me. In short, be my very soul, as I am yours. Once more, my dearest,

Your most sincere and affectionate,

Oct. 20, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

I AM much obliged to you for the ruffles you have been so kind as to send me. And much more so for the flattering assurances of the permanence of your affection. Nothing can be so welcome to me as the repetition of that wished-for expressive word I *love* from your pen. Believe me, I do not think you can write too often, or can I ever read it but with  
infinite

infinite pleasure. Is there any thing so near to my heart as your love? Whatever then may speak its warmth, cannot fail to be acceptable to me. It is your coldness alone that I have or shall ever complain of. Oh, do not then give me cause the next time we meet to entertain those doubts that have perplexed and hurt me so much of late; but when my good fortune brings me to you, receive me with all the fire and sprightliness of youth; and instead of a languid enjoyment, strain me close to your breast, raise the blessings you confer on me by the liveliness of your embraces, seem to know nothing, to feel nothing but the joys in possession of that moment. In short, give yourself so entirely up to the sweet delirium of love's dearest extacies, that I may think you have not a wish beyond it to be gratified; and then you will make me fully happy, at least for a time; for I shall flatter myself you are at that time wholly mine, and that while you can be pleased with me to a most delightful excess, you will always wish



wish for me as ardently as I can possibly desire to be happy with you. It is the giving and taking in a mutual return that enhances the sweetest pleasures, and raises those blessings which lovers only can bestow on each other. — Ironical writings, which you blame me for, I do not recollect to have been guilty of. I wish therefore you had pointed to those particular parts of my letter that was displeasing to you; it never was my intention; and you must know, that I never had the least inclination to give you a moment's uneasiness. So far am I from being so disposed, that the end of all my endeavours is to promote your felicity. In your letter before that, to which I have replied, you have observed I answered to you on your desiring to hear from me. — What signifies writing? I can only repeat the same thing over and over to you. In making such a reply, did I not give you the strongest proof possible of the sincerest attachment and acknowledgment to you, that my mind was so entirely engrossed by you, that I could write

to you of nothing less than my passion; and that as I could not address you without the tenderest sentiments rising up in my bosom, love alone would be the subject of all my letters to you. That I spoke but the truth in this particular; read every little epistle of mine, and those will convince you (can I say the same with respect to the letters I have received from you !) I hope, however for the best, and that I am, what I wish to be, most dear to you, — Farewel,

I am, my dear,

Your most affectionate,

Nov. 8, 1771.

R. BARWELL.

After

AFTER I had read the above letters<sup>2</sup> I felt my resentment and indignation rise against the seducer; but how could I gratify either, on a man who was possessed of sufficient power to crush me. I therefore thought it most prudent to dissemble with him, and not to let him know any thing of the discovery I had made. As to Mrs. Thompson, I learned from her, that having set her heart on going to Mootigeal, she could but receive me with indifference on my arrival from that place, as my return had entirely deranged the plan of happiness she had formed with Mr. Barwell. She was however too near my heart to be shaken off; I felt a strong advocate for her in my breast; and as I had brought myself to think that she never would have listened to the addresses of Mr. Barwell, if he had not taught her to think despicably of me, I was resolved to shew her that he had done me a flagrant injustice, as I was capable of acting both generously and heroically. I told her I would forgive what was past,

G

if

if she would entirely withdraw herself from the sight of her seducer by returning to Europe ; and that for her support, I would allow her out of my salary 200 l. a year. She seemed struck with my generosity, and consented to return to England ; preparations were accordingly making for that purpose, when an event happened, which soon made her change her mind. Mr. Hoare, one of the gentlemen of the Council, died just at that time, and his death made a vacant seat at the board, to which Mr. Barwell was appointed : this soon called him from Patna to Calcutta ; and with him all Mrs. Thompson's fondness for him returned, and she absolutely refused to go to England. As I had before determined, I dissembled with Mr. Barwell, and with still more reason, as he was become still more powerful. But it was impossible for me to feign ignorance long. Not satisfied with *stolen* embraces ; not contented with what he thought private *adultery*, he was determined to flaunt it in the face of day :  
 he



he was resolved to enjoy the fruits of his seduction without controul, and publicly to glory in his triumph. In a word, every degree of reserve and decorum was soon thrown off, and a free loose was given to their criminal passion. I had taken care to prevent my sister from being a witness to such a scene ; and finding Mrs. Thompson to be an unfit companion for her, because she was irreclaimable, I persuaded her to return to England soon after I had made the fatal discovery.

INSULTED daily as I was by my wife's irregularities, there remained but one additional insult, which she could offer me. My presence was disagreeable, and she did not blush to propose to me one day that I should leave India, and accept of an annuity, which Mr. Barwell, she said, was ready to settle on me. I was stunned with the proposal, and was for some time before I could recover sufficient speech to tell her how I despised her and her offer. She very coolly replied that I was my own

G 2                      master ;

master ; and might accept of the proposal, or reject it, just as I pleased ; but that for her part she would no longer live with me ; and that if I would not quit India, she would inform Mr. Barwell that she was not my wife ; and thus free both herself and him from restraint. This threat, gentle readers, I heard as a thunder clap ; I could scarce believe my senses, and my astonishment was not to be described. I soon saw the horror of my situation, and the ruin of my fortune. I had already forfeited the good will of the Council ; and I was threatened with a discovery, which would have rendered every lady and gentleman in the settlement implacable against me, for having imposed on their acquaintance a harlot as my wife. Their indignation would have banished me from society, and not a person who had any reputation would have been seen in my company. My employment of course would either be taken from me, or I should have been obliged to resign it, to starve in a strange country, where

where I could not find a friend, and where every countenance would be armed against me. Say, candid readers, what could I have done in such a situation? What would you have me to have done? Consider, it was not a *wife* I was desired to give up; it was a monster, a prostitute, whom indeed I once thought might have been made worthy of that name. I had been at a very heavy expence to clothe, support and educate her in England; to carry her to India; to maintain her there in an elegant stile. Say, readers, was it a crime to renounce all claims to a woman who renounced me? And to get some compensation for all she had cost me; for the 700 l. a year she was about to make me forfeit, and for the fortune which was within my grasp, when she dashed it from me? I do not think the impartial will blame me, when I say, that I at last, through necessity, agreed to consent to the terms proposed me.

THIS ungrateful woman had two children, whether by Mr. Barwell or me, she

best knows. In my agreement, I did not forget their interests; and the mother was not unmindful of her own. A deed of trust, a copy of which is here annexed, for 10,000 l. \* was executed to Warren Hastings

\* Know all men by these presents, that I Richard Barwell, of Calcutta, at Fort William, in the kingdom of Bengal, Esq; am held and firmly bound unto Warren Hastings and Robert Sanderson, of Calcutta, in the kingdom of Bengal, Esqrs. or the survivors of them in trust, for and to, and for the use of Sarah Thompson, the wife of Henry Fred. Thompson, also of Calcutta, in the kingdom of Bengal, and the children on her body begotten, in the penal sum of ten thousand pounds sterling, lawful money of Great Britain, for the payment whereof to be well and truly made to the said Warren Hastings and Robert Sanderson, Esqrs. or the survivors of them, or their executors or administrators, or the executors or administrators of the survivors of them, I do hereby bind myself, my heirs, or administrators firmly by these presents. In witness thereof I hereunto set my hand and seal in Calcutta aforesaid, this twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two.

WHEREAS the above bound Richard Barwell, for the great love and affection he bears to the  
above



Hastings and Robert Sanderson \*, for the payment of 5000 l. to Sarah Thompson and her children; and an annuity of  
300 l.

above named Sarah Thompson, the wife of Henry Fred. Thompson, and her children, and for divers other causes and considerations him thereunto moving, hath resolved to provide for the maintenance of the said Sarah Thompson, and her children, after the death or demise of the said Henry Fred. Thompson, by the sum of five thousand pounds sterling, lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid on or immediately after the death or demise of the said Henry Fred. Thompson, by even and equal proportions, share, and share alike, betwixt the said Sarah Thompson and the children on her body begotten, or the survivors of them.

Now the condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bound Richard Barwell, his heirs, executors, administrators, shall and do well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto the above named Warren Hastings and Rob. Sanderson, Esqrs, or the survivors of them, their executors, administrators, or the executors or administrators of the  
G 4 sur-

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\* Mr. Barwell not liking to trust persons mentioned by me, appointed Messrs. Hastings and Sanderson trustees, without their knowledge.

300l. \* was settled upon me. I was bound on my side never to molest or trouble  
Mr.

survivors of them, the full and just sum of five thousand pounds sterling, lawful money of Great Britain, on or immediately after the death or demise of the said Henry Fred. Thompson in trust, and for the use of the said Sarah Thompson, and the children on her body begotten, to be divided betwixt them, or the survivors of them, in the manner and form aforesaid, then this obligation to be void and of no effect, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.—There being two obligations of the same tenure and date, the one being accomplished, the other to be void.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, where no stamp paper was to be had.

RICHARD BARWELL:

In presence of JOHN PEARCE,  
WILLIAM ATKINSON.

WHEREAS I the said Henry Fred. Thompson have executed this day a counter obligation to the above Richard Barwell. This is to obviate any compact of assigning over this obligation of this day's date, of the twentieth of March, as on failure of the terms of my obligation, to be null and void. Witness my hand, H. F. THOMPSON.

\* To all to whom these presents shall come, I Richard Barwell, of Calcutta, at Fort William, in the

Mr. Barwell on account of Mrs. Thompson.

As

the kingdom of Bengal, Esq. sends greeting. Know ye, that the said Richard Barwell, for divers good causes and considerations him hereunto moving hath given, granted and confirmed unto Henry Fred. Thompson, now of Calcutta, in the kingdom of Bengal, for and during the term of his natural life, one annuity, or annual rent of three hundred pounds sterling, lawful money of Great Britain, to be well and truly paid to the said Henry Fred. Thompson and his attorneys; and the principal sum for the due payment of the said annuity or annual rent to be secured by Ralph Leicester and Anslem Beaumont, Esqrs. of London, in the kingdom of Great Britain, lawful attorneys to the said Richard Barwell. In the India fund, or such other public funds as they the said Ralph Leicester and Anslem Beaumont, Esqrs. shall and may approve; and he the said Henry Fred. Thompson acquiesce. To have and to hold, receive, perceive, and take the said annuity, or annual rent of three hundred pounds sterling, for and during the term of his natural life; the same to be taken and had, received by, and paid to him the said Henry Fred. Thompson at four quarterly payments, by even and equal portions; the first quarterly payment commencing the first day of January, in the year of  
our

As soon as this business was concluded, I quitted India, and with it all my hopes of fortune, and sailed for Canton in China. If I had resigned my employment at Calcutta, and sailed from thence for England, I must necessarily have taken Mrs. Thompson with me. That could not be done, after the engagements that had been mutually

our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four. The second payment to be made the first day of April following; the third payment to be made the first day of July next ensuing; fourth and last quarterly payment to be made the first day of October following, and so on for the successive years, till the death or demise of the said Henry Fred. Thompson, in witness whereof the said Richard Barwell hath hereunto set his hand and seal, this twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two.

Sealed, signed and delivered, where no stamp paper is to be had.

RICHARD BARWELL.

Presence of JOHN PEARCE,  
WILLIAM ATKINSON.

WHEREAS



mutually entered into ; it was planned therefore that I should go to China, as if with an intention to return to Calcutta ; and that I should copy the following letter, which Mr. Barwell had himself written for me, and send it to him to Bengal, while I myself should proceed to Europe, in one of the Company's ships.

TO RICHARD BARWELL, Esq.

S I R,

WITH this, I have already in another letter just mentioned to you my arrival here, in which I flattered myself the scheme I set out upon might have been concluded beneficially ; but, upon a more strict enquiry, I am sorry to observe, that  
I have

WHEREAS I the said Henry Fred. Thompson have executed this day a counter obligation to the above Richard Barwell, this is to obviate any compact of assigning over the above obligation of this day's date of the twentieth of March, on the failure of terms of my obligation, to become null and void.

Witness my hand, HEN. FRED. THOMPSON.

I have found the high price of goods here, and the state of the markets in India, are very unfavourable to my plan : of returning a freighter in one of the Maccow ships. As, after all, I should not do much more than have my trouble for my pains. You may remember, I expressed to you once my intentions of resigning the post you were so kind as to procure me, as deputy pay-master, and proceeding, with the little money I had, to Europe directly from Bengal. There were many obstacles which prevented me from executing that design ; but, circumstanced as I find myself at present, I have again taken that resolution, and shall proceed from hence in one of the Europe ships to England. There I shall push all the interest I have, to return to Calcutta in the Company's service. I have written to Mrs. Thompson to desire that she will on no account think of leaving India, for should I be able to obtain my wish, and get an appointment immediately, I shall be coming out at the very time she is  
coming

coming home, an accident I am desirous to avoid; I therefore beg you will use your endeavours to pacify, and persuade her to act in a manner I wish; that is, to stay in India till she hears from me of my arrival in Europe. As the bills I have taken from hence will not be due for some time; and as money may possibly be necessary to give weight to the application to get me out in the service, I desire the favour of you to give an order to your attornies for such sums as you may be able to spare; and, if it would not be inconvenient, that you would at least secure me three hundred pounds. — I have nothing more particular at present, but remain, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

HEN. FRED. THOMPSON.

Canton,

Nov. 23, 1771.

THIS

THIS letter afforded a good excuse for Mrs. Thompson's remaining at Calcutta, and was well calculated to save appearances; for though Mr. Barwell had *courage* enough to meet the reproaches of mankind for publicly living, in what the world and he thought *adultery*, yet he had not quite effrontery enough to bear the odium of having transported an honest man from India, who but for him would in a very few years have raised a fortune of many thousand pounds. Thro' the whole affair however I must do Mr. Barwell the justice to say, that he shewed himself a complete dissembler; a consummate hypocrite, a false friend, a remorseless sinner, and an artful negociator.

THE season being far advanced when I left Calcutta, my voyage to Madras was very difficult and disagreeable. When I arrived there, I was fortunate enough to meet with Capt. Rouse of the Royal Henry, brother to the gentleman with whom I made my first voyage to India.

He



He greatly added to the obligations I already owed his family, by accommodating me with his table, and a passage to China. And here I am happy to have an opportunity to do public justice to his generosity, by declaring that he landed me at Canton, without suffering me to be at the least expence for either my board or passage.

THE fond pair I had left behind me at Calcutta, had lived so regardless of public opinion, and had so little consulted secrecy in their transactions, that when I landed in China, I found myself avoided by every one as a venal wretch, who had basely consented to his own dishonour, and had set a prize upon the virtue of his wife. I could soon have silenced the voice of slander, by satisfying those who condemned me, that I had had no wife; and by urging the fatal necessity that forced me to comply with terms, and consent to measures, which might cast a blemish on my reputation, I might have vindicated

vindicated myself, by shewing that I was really the injured man, and that by endeavouring to remove to Europe, the woman whom I called my wife, and offering to allow her near half my income, I had done as much as any man in my situation would have done. As the woman was not my wife, I could not have any *legal* redress for the injuries done me by Mr. Barwell; and to attempt taking *personal* satisfaction, would have been as imprudent, as if I should call out Lord North, or any minister in England; nay, it would have been much more so; for an Asiatic Governor is more arbitrary in his province, than a British sovereign dare to be in this kingdom. I was therefore obliged to submit to what was offered me; and prudential motives made me bear with temporary obloquy, until I could have an opportunity fully to exculpate myself from the dishonourable charges brought against me. However, as my silence at Canton was interpreted into a tacit acknowledgment of my guilt, I found

found it a very difficult matter to find a Captain who would carry me to England. So prepossessed was the whole fleet against me! Thanks to Mr. Barwell, who first robbed me of my supposed wife's affections, next of my peace, then of my fortunes, and, at last, to crown all, of my reputation! Tho' I met refusals from almost all the commanders, yet, after much intreaties, I prevailed on the Captain of the Fox Indiaman to take me on board, and with him arrived in England in the month of August, 1773.

I now thought I was at the end of all my toils. I resigned myself with a philosophical patience to my fate, and sat down with this consolation, that though I might have lived in splendor, yet it was still in my power to rise above want. But alas! the measure of my misfortunes was not yet filled up. I had been already driven from opulence to a competency; there remained only to reduce me to want; and the prelude to this last step was the

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follow-

following letter, which I received from Mr. Barwell, about a year after my arrival in England.

To Mr. THOMPSON.

S I R,

IN consequence of your request, I wrote last year to my attornies, to get you, if it lay in their power, an appointment in the Company's service ; but as I much doubt their abilities to answer your wishes in that respect, I cannot but be apprehensive the precipitate measure you resolved upon, will be productive of expence to you without any advantage whatever. My friends have been so circumstanced, that all the interest they can engage is, I understand, directed to the service of their own particular connexions. Should this be the case, I make it my request to you, not to think of spending your money and time in England : or if you do think you have a sufficiency to live upon, it becomes necessary to your

own



own character, and the peace of your family, that you should make one more voyage to India, although you should immediately return to England with Mrs. Thompson and the little ones. My present situation and prospects, if you come to India immediately on the receipt of this letter, will possibly enable me to add something to your little stock, by throwing commercial advantages in your way.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Decca,  
Aug. 23, 1773.

RICH. BARWELL.

It is necessary to inform my readers of a circumstance that I did not learn myself till long after the receipt of this letter, that, charmed as was Mr. Barwell with Mrs. Thompson, or as I should now call her Mrs. Bonner, yet he found himself *obliged* to part with her. The whole settlement took offence at his living publicly as they thought, in *adultery*. And at

the Council-board he was told that he *must* send her away, or such steps should be taken against him, as could not fail to injure both his reputation and fortune. The dread of a suspension from the execution of his duty at the board, for that was what he was threatened with, soon made him consent to what neither shame, or a regard to his character, could have induced him to think of, namely, to dismiss his mistress; and I must be hurried out to India by the prospect of advancing my fortune, in order, merely, that I might save appearances for the lovers, and *bring* Mrs. Bonner away, to prevent the mortification that Mr. Barwell's pride must have undergone, if he had been *obliged* to *send* her away. This artful gentleman knew that I must obtain the Company's leave to go to India, and as he was aware, that I would shew his letter to the directors for that purpose, he took care to write such an one as might be shewn to them; pretending in the beginning, that I had requested him to procure

me a place in the Company's service, when he was perfectly satisfied that I had not the least intention ever to return to a settlement, where my character appearing in a false light, was so disagreeable to the inhabitants, that it was not possible I could live there. Much as I disliked to return to India, there was one reason which determined me to accept the invitation; it was this. The annuity was secured to me by bond, but no fund had been appropriated for the payment: and I saw, that if I depended on an order from Mr. Barwell to his agent in London, for it was through that channel I had received the annuity for one year, and got in advance the 300 l. for the second, I might be left to starve, if he should think proper to omit sending an order annually. I wished to see a fund established, and in order to have it done, I resolved once more to go to Calcutta. As soon as I had come to this resolution, I waited on Mr. Anselm Beaumont, through whose hands I had received the money, and

shewed him the letter: he took it to Mr. Stables, one of the directors of the India Company, who, on perusing it, immediately signed my petition, which had been presented for leave to go to India. My next step was to find a ship; but that I found most difficult, as every Captain to whom I applied refused me his table. The principals having refused me, I could not expect to be entertained by their officers. I at last addressed myself to Capt. James Barwell, brother to the worthy gentleman who has been the hero of these sheets; I informed him, that it was at his brother's request I was returning to India, and requested I might be allowed to take my passage in his ship, and have the accommodation of his table. I told him, that it was not then in my power to give him the full complement for my passage, but begged he would be satisfied for the present with *eighty pounds*, and immediately put bank notes into his hand to the amount of that sum, assuring him at the same time, that he should receive



ceive the remainder before our departure.

He gave me to understand, that he would with pleasure accommodate me on his brother's account, and that every thing on board his ship should be made as agreeable to me as possible. He kindly returned me the bank notes; told me he should sail in a short time, and desired I would hold myself in readiness.

THE great difficulty of obtaining a passage having been thus happily removed, I waited in readiness for orders to go on board. But just as I was about to leave London, I read with astonishment the following letter from Capt. Barwell.

TO MR. HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

S I R,

CONSIDERING of what has passed betwixt us, you must excuse my taking you to my table, or allowing you those accommodations you may think necessary,

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without

without you contribute one hundred guineas, (exclusive of what the owners demand) for that indulgence. I should be happy to serve you for my brother's sake, but am convinced he does not desire any thing unreasonable of me. If this should not be agreeable, be so obliging to send me a line.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Berners Street,  
No. 12, Dec. 9,  
1774.

JAMES BARWELL.

I IMMEDIATELY waited on the Captain ; expressed my surprize at this sudden change of resolution, assured him it would be absolutely out of my power to raise the sum he required, in so short a time, and informed him, that the eighty pounds I had offered to him before had been borrowed from a friend, and returned to him again ; I then proposed my bond for the payment of the money in India. To this he objected ; I was at a loss how to  
account

account for his conduct. When I first asked the favour of a passage in this ship, he expressed the greatest regard for his brother, and readiness to serve me for his sake. His letter made me suspect, that there was a passion in his breast, infinitely stronger than brotherly love, it was AVARICE. I was resolved to be satisfied whether my suspicions were well founded or not: for this purpose I offered my bond for 2000 Arcot rupees (225l. sterl.) he instantly closed with my proposal, and fully satisfied me that a bond for DOUBLE the ordinary sum paid for a passage, was a much more prevailing argument with this *conscientious* gentleman than justice, humanity, or regard for a brother. I do not mean to suggest a single hint to the prejudice of his conduct, which the transaction does not fully justify; for if he thought the bond that I first offered not a sufficient security for a 1000 rupees, the same security for double the sum must surely have been still less sufficient. It is clear therefore, that he did not question  
the

the certainty of being paid ; and he seems to have made it a point to take the advantage of my situation, in order to extort from me as much more as any other passenger was known to pay. Would the world pardon me, if I hazarded a conjecture which does not appear to me to be ill-founded ? I will venture to do it ; but remember, gentle readers, that it is merely as a *conjecture* I give it ; for having to deal with so able a lawyer as the Captain is, it were dangerous to acknowledge that I know it to be a *truth*. From his brother's letter he judged me to be much in favour with him ; and with a degree of penetration peculiar to those who know how to turn every occurrence to their own advantage, instantly conceived, that as Mr. Richard Barwell had invited me to India, he would, in all probability, defray the expences of the voyage ; and as he concluded that his brother would therefore pay the bond, he was resolved it should be sufficiently valuable. This conjecture does some justice to Capt. Barwell ;



well ; for it gives every room to suppose that his Jewish bargain was not made to extort money from me, but to levy contribution on a brother, for whom he professed the greatest kindness : but if this is the kindness he shews to all his brothers, thank heaven he cannot rank me among the number. But to return from conjectures to matters of fact, I was obliged to pay 10 l. to the owners, exclusive of the bond I passed to the *disinterested* Captain ; and on the beginning of January, 1775, I sailed with him in the Ankerwyke East Indiaman for Bengal.

As my voyage to India makes an interruption in the business that is the subject of my narrative, my readers perhaps will not be sorry to be amused a little with the character of Mr. J<sup>h</sup>. Cator, whom they may remember me to have already mentioned as the *Mercury* who carried all the *amorous* dispatches from the Jupiter of Mootigeal to the fair one whom he had

had determined to seduce. Though this messenger was unfortunately so awkward on *one* occasion as to be discovered by me, in the act of delivering an amorous epistle; yet, my readers, must not do him the injustice to think that he was not in general a very proper agent on such business. His master found him a very useful servant, and employed him in all his affairs, from those which concerned the government of an extended empire, down to those which afforded him a soft and tender alleviation from the business of the state; in a word, he was his minister for the political, domestic and amorous departments.

As the business of seducing a man's wife was *highly honourable*, an honourable ambassador was employed; his rank was certainly respectable, being at the time one of the *aldermen of the mayor's court*, which court was abolished, when government thought proper to send judges to India. It must be confessed, that among  
Mr.

Mr. Cator's vices ingratitude was not to be found, for he had so high a sense of the favours he had received from Mr. Barwell, through whose interest he had been appointed an alderman ; that to that title, he, for his patron's sake, made no scruple to add that of P\*\*p. The latter title indeed was the more lasting of the two, for a little while before I left India, he lost that of alderman, for some little *faux pas*, which in Duke's Place would not have been thought criminal by a single member of the tribe of *Levi* : the Council of Bengal, however, not being so enlightened, were so stupid as to dismiss him from employment, in spite of every effort that his principal made to protect and shelter from such a blow, so trusty, so useful, and so faithful an agent. What a severe punishment inflicted on a man merely for *kissing a book* ! This transaction will never die ; for it is recorded in the Company's books ; and any proprietor may read it in Leadenhall-street. This was the *worthy* gentleman,

who

who was employed in carrying on the whole of the intrigue between Mr. Barwell and Mrs. Thompson; and my readers will recollect, that in the letter dated Patna, Oct. 20, 1771, Mr. Barwell informs his fair one, that he always inclosed his letters for her to Mr. Cator. The dismissal from the mayor's court has not been prejudicial to his fortune; his principal has taken care to obtain an appointment for him in the Company's service; and has left it to the world to decide whether he has acted more generously or scandalously—generously in rewarding the services of the instrument of his pleasures,—Scandalously in imposing on the directors, and procuring from them an establishment for a man who had already been publicly branded with infamy. But Calcutta appears in view; let me drop the servant, to talk of his master and mistress.

I LANDED at Calcutta in September, 1775, and to my astonishment soon learned,



ed, that Mrs. Bonner had sailed for England in the Anson Indiaman \*. This I deemed an ill omen, and though I was happy at being rid of the necessity of

\* It may appear rather strange that Mr. Barwell, after having sent for me with this view among others, to take Mrs. Thompson back to England, should suffer her to sail for Europe before my arrival in Bengal. The reader however will cease to be surprized, when informed that Mr. Barwell was absolutely *forced* and *compelled* by the Council not to wait my arrival before he should dismiss her : great disputes had risen at the board on her account, and so disagreeable did Mr. Barwell find his situation whenever he attended his duty at the board, that he absented himself six whole weeks from it, in order to rid himself of the importunities of the other members, who, after having *advised*, began at last to *insist* on Mrs. Bonner's removal, without any farther delay. He saw, that to resist the will of the Council any longer would be to the last degree *dangerous* ; he therefore dismissed her previous to my arrival, and resumed his duty at the board from which he had been *self-suspended* for full *six weeks*. So much had his darling passion for pleasure prevailed over his sense of duty to the Company, who had honoured him with an honourable and important office, which he neglected for the sake of a woman.

seeing

seeing her, yet I could not but apprehend that I had been ensnared, and tempted to make a long voyage at great expence, which in the end would probably sink me deeper in distress than I had been before. I soon found that my apprehensions were but too well grounded; for on the *third* day after my landing, Mr. Barwell very coolly informed me, that circumstances of affairs having been altered since he had written to me, it was out of his power to serve me as he had promised; and therefore advised me to return to Europe by the way of Bombay. I was thunderstruck at the intelligence and the advice. I saw I was a mere shuttlecock bandied back from Europe to Asia, and from Asia to Europe. Those in whose hands I was, seemed to think no more of a voyage from Calcutta to London, and back again, than from Westminster-bridge to Chelsea. When I saw that I had nothing to hope for in India, I observed to Mr. Barwell, that my situation was really distressing, and that as from a change of circum-

circumstances, he could do nothing for me in the commercial line, he would at least do what was in his power, namely, to free me from the wretched state of dependance on his will in which I then was, by establishing a fund for the payment of the annuity he had settled on me.

THIS observation was, I believe, more than he expected, and as he had reason to think from the manner in which I made it, that I would not readily consent to leave Calcutta, until the annuity should be secured to my satisfaction, no further mention was made about my return to Europe for three weeks. I did not like this silence on a subject that he had so very peremptorily, and so very *early* opened to me after my arrival. Seeing no prospect of a provision in India, and consequently not liking to remain there in a state of dependance on a man who had already so much injured me, I myself at last proposed my return to Europe, but insisted on proper security as a preliminary

to such a step. Mr. Barwell promised that every thing should be settled to my satisfaction; that he would order his attorney to prepare a proper deed for that purpose; and requested I would let him see the former one he had given me; I told him it was impossible to gratify him in that, as I had left it in England; but gave him at the same time a copy of it, I waited the issue of his promise with impatience, but finding that a whole month had elapsed without any mention of the business, I thought it my duty to renew it. I expected to hear Mr. Barwell lay all the blame on the attorney for neglecting to fulfill his orders; how greatly then was I surprized to hear him say, that if he was to settle any thing, I should make him a new assignment. This drew some severe reproaches from me, on his candour and justice; and I could not help observing to him, that such an evasive conduct was unworthy of a man of honour. He, on the other hand, laid it down as a rule, that I should pay implicit obedience *to his will*, or that we never could agree.

ON



ON this business the following correspondence took place between us.

TO RICHARD BARWELL, Esq.

MR. BARWELL,

YOU will much oblige me, by giving a positive answer what I am to expect, whether you will or will not fulfill your engagement with me of securing the annuity, &c. as I have fulfilled mine with you as far as lies in my power.

I AM determined I will not any longer be the dupe to another man's amours. If you have neither feeling nor generosity for me, I must seek redress elsewhere. I wish to secure your friendship; but if it can be on no other terms than being entirely subject to *your will*, I must beg leave to decline it, and, in consequence, must immediately think of quitting your house.

I am, with due respect,

Your most obedient servant,

HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

Tuesday Morning.

To Mr. THOMPSON.

S I R,

I HAVE not time to answer your's particularly : but I have heard more than I had an idea of. The spirit of our reciprocal engagement I will take care shall be attended to. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

RICH. BARWELL.

Tuesday Morning.

P. S. I have ordered the papers from the hands of my attorney, and informed him not to trouble himself about them.

To RICHARD BARWELL, Esq.

S I R,

THE difference of our situations in life, I own, requires the greatest respect to you from me, and nothing but the utmost necessity shall make me act in any other manner towards you. Yet the peculiar circumstances in which I find myself,

self, obliged me to come to a full explanation; and I shall leave it to the judgment of any unprejudiced person, what ideas I am to form of your behaviour towards me. On my first arrival in Calcutta, did you not propose sending me away before I had been three days in the place, without ever mentioning the securing of the little I am to have from you? Though you invited me over from England, promising at the same time to increase my fortune? Admitting this last to be out of your power, on account of the difference of your situation from what it was when you wrote to me, yet you might have treated me with friendship. When I mentioned that I should be glad to return in your brother's ship, you objected to it, till I was obliged to urge to you the necessity of it. After my letter of the 16th of September, you told me you would give me every satisfaction I could desire; but last night you gave me to understand, that if you secured the annuity, &c. I must make a new assignment.

ment. I answered, that I would give you any security you might deem necessary, on your own account, and that I would never force the inclinations of Mrs. Thompson with respect to living with me. If you have sincerely no object in view but her welfare, you cannot surely desire more; if you have other motives, I do not suppose my offer is sufficient: allowing you to have the power of influencing her inclinations, you would shew your generosity by not attempting to retain her affections, as she has a young family growing up, and you cannot but be sensible how detrimental such a conduct in you must prove to them. Tell me? if you have discovered any thing the least churlish in my disposition; if not, should I have esteem enough to live with Mrs. Thompson again, what doubt can you entertain of my treating her with every sort of indulgence that my circumstances will admit; especially when I am ready to engage not to attempt forcing her inclination. I am sorry to intrude so much



much upon your time, but as it appears to me a matter of serious reflection, I would chuse to acquit myself, if possible, of a litigious disposition, and, if agreeable to you, will take the opinion of Council, and settle it by arbitration. I have taken the liberty of your house to-night. If we cannot accommodate the matter, I will provide myself with a place to-morrow. I am, Sir, with respect,

Your most humble servant,

HEN. FRED. THOMPSON.

Tuesday night,  
Oct. 24, 1775.

To Mr. H. F. THOMPSON.

S I R,

I WILL not enter into a discussion of the subject on which we have already descanted. — The dependance or the independance; the parties must be mutual, or the equability is lost. When a man tells me he will not confide in me, and at the same time proposes to me an im-

plicit reliance, or his word only, the least severe stricture I can pass upon his conduct is a diffidence of *me*, and a high opinion of *himself*. Confidence must be mutual, or it cannot exist; it can never revive in my mind, after what has passed in conversation with you. As long as you remain in India, I shall with pleasure entertain you as my guest. When you go hence I shall make ample allowance for your misconceptions, and while you act with propriety to Mrs. T. to whom I shall always extend my protection, you will find me in no respect deficient. You upbraid me with proposing your immediate return; had you thought, consideration for you alone dictated it, as circumstances were altered, and I was not in a situation to place you in any employ that I could recommend to your acceptance. With respect to the request you made of returning in my brother's ship, I knew him averse to it, and convinced, it was a matter of indifference to you in what ship you were accommodated. Be-  
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ing above every apprehension of the law, and clear as to the rectitude of my own intentions, whatever idea you may have of litigating the reciprocal engagement betwixt us, it neither alarms nor moves me fixed in my purpose, I will not subject the person who looks up to *me* for protection to the *will* of another.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

RICH. BARWELL.

Wednesday Morning,

O<sup>c</sup>t. 25, 1775.

TO RICHARD BARWELL, Esq,

Mr. Barwell,

I CERTAINLY agree with you as to what you advance, with respect to a man's acting in the manner that you mention. The stricture is both just and mild. But it has been my misfortune, that, in every transaction I have had with you, I have never had it in my power to give a negative voice, without bringing  
trouble

trouble on myself. Therefore an implicit reliance is out of the question, and I cannot come under your censure. You acknowledge that confidence must be mutual, or it cannot exist, which is most certainly true. But what confidence have you reposed in me, when you doubted me in the most tender point, that of appointing trustees for the children? — Whatever misconceptions have arisen in my breast concerning your conduct towards me, I think I have just grounds for, otherwise I should look upon myself as guilty of the greatest ingratitude. Whatever protestations I have made you respecting Mrs. T—, you have already much doubted; therefore it is needless for me to say any thing more on that head; and you certainly cannot be under any apprehensions while you have the rod in *your own hand*, to correct *me when I go amiss*—I do assure you I will strictly adhere both to the letter and spirit of the engagement. This you can have no objections to, as it is following your example.



ple. I should be sorry, that through any misconduct of mine I should reduce the children to beggary (*my wife is in no such danger*) whatever kind intentions you may have for me I shall always be thankful for; but if they bring more pain than pleasure, I am excusable in my misconceptions; as in the case of my going to Bombay, I should have had as much trouble as in returning to India. I must confess, I should be much better satisfied, if there were trustees appointed, of whom I had some knowledge. If that cannot be the case, I must ask those gentlemen whether it will be agreeable to them to take the charge. I have no other request to make, but that you will give me a positive order to receive, in your own manner, the annuity; then I shall take my leave of you, and trust to providence for the rest. Only be pleased to mention to your attornies, or those who are to pay the money, that it is an annuity, and then they will not ask any questions.--As I suppose this will be my last address to you; I am sorry  
we

we are likely to part with so little confidence in each other.

I am, with respect, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

HEN. FRED. THOMPSON.

Wednesday night.

To Mr. THOMPSON.

S I R,

I WILL give you an order on my brother if it is equally agreeable to you. *I am satisfied that he will neither abuse my confidence, or* GIVE YOU A MOMENT'S ANXIETY. The subject is delicate, and I must be careful how I commit myself. I am sorry we are likely to part in a manner so unpleasant. I can and do make great allowances for the notions you entertain ;—and though it would be the height of folly and baseness in me to subject a woman who has a claim to my protection to the will of any man, while she is free from me, I will act by you Sir, in every respect as you could wish (without  
parting

parting with the little power I hold) while you consider the person to whom I extend my care.

I SHOULD be glad to have your company to supper, and shall with pleasure make my house as agreeable to you as I may be able, should it, on reflection, be thought by you no impropriety to remain in it. I have no prejudice against any man for differing in opinion from me. — *I wish not to subject you to the least inconvenience.* I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

RICH. BARWELL.

Wednesday Night.

THIS correspondence gained Mr. Barwell my fullest confidence: his letters breathed such an air of candour, integrity, and generosity, that contrary to the experience I had already had of him, I felt myself inclined to believe him sincere, and implicitly relied on his honour, for the faithful performance of all he promised.

mised. The childrens interest I had made it a point to secure, and I felt no small satisfaction in having acted as a father to them, whether from nature I had a right to that name or not. But I was fatally undeceived in the good opinion I had foolishly begun to entertain of Mr. Barwell. I soon found that I had been lulled into a perfect security by fair promises, that it never was his intention to fulfill; nor did I discover my error, till it was too late to repair it.

I HAD promised Mr. Barwell, at the conclusion of our correspondence, that I would leave the management of the whole business to himself, and that trusting solely to his honour, I would no more trouble him with my complaints, nor entertain the least suspicion to his disadvantage; and that I would not open my lips on the subject, till he should have the deed ready for signing.

I so far kept my word, that I never spoke a syllable to him about the matter,  
till



till the evening before I was to accompany him to Ingelee, as he was going down the river with his brother to the ship that was to carry me to Europe. I then expressed my uneasiness at his delay in completing the affair. He told me, that he expected the deed from his lawyer, in an hour or two; but when a note at last arrived from Mr. Farrer, his attorney, at ten o'clock at night, I was confounded at learning by the contents, that the papers and instructions from which the deed was to be drawn were informal and insufficient. In this situation I could not forbear taxing Mr. Barwell with duplicity. To remove the impression the note had made on me, he pretended to be very angry with his attorney, and immediately sent him an order to make out a deed agreeable to instructions which he then gave him, and to send it down by the purser, who was to remain in town two or three days for the packet. The purser arrived, but brought no deed: I was almost distracted at seeing myself so much

in the power of a man, who seemed not to have the least inclination to act with common honesty towards me. I recollected however, that if I could get from him, the counter-obligation I had given when last in India, the deed poll which he had passed to me for 300 l. a year, would be an absolute obligation on his side, on which I could sue him at any time ; and as for the bond, which I had received at the same time, for the benefit of the children, I had no uneasiness on that head, as I was convinced he would not for five times the sum appear in any court in England to dispute its validity. I therefore requested he would let me have that obligation, with a discharge at the bottom of it. He consented, and I writ the following words for him to sign. " This is to certify, that I Richard Barwell have no further claim or demand on the above parties, this engagement being fulfilled. He refused to sign this declaration, without the addition of the following words, which he himself dictated,

THIS

*Provided be the said Henry Fred. Thompson fully and unreservedly, and without equivocation, keeps the stipulations made in his letter of Jan. 1776, dated on board the ship Ankerwyke, and executes the deeds that may be drawn, legally binding him to the performance of the stipulations in the said letter.*

Ship Ankerwyke, Jan. 2. 1776.

HE then produced the following letter of instructions for my perusal, and said it contained all *he intended to do for me.*

#### INSTRUCTIONS.

Dear Brother,

I RECEIVED your letter, and you may depend on my compliance with the particulars contained in the same, which I will here recapitulate, viz.

SINCE your arrival in Calcutta, I expose to you the nature and circumstances of the reciprocal engagement made by me with Mr. Thompson, and by him with me, and these engagements, being informal and insufficient, were to be superse-

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ded

ded by others more legal and authentic Copies of the several papers I commit to your keeping, that you may be fully apprized of the ends proposed to be answered by these writings, and may be able to accomplish those ends in my place, which my residence in India, precludes my doing. For this purpose I have purchased, and made payable to you the following bills of exchange on the English East India Company, viz.

I sett for 7,000 in my favour indorfed by me to you :  
Nov. 30. 1775.

6 setts dated Nov. 23. 1775	{	1 do.—1,000 in yrs.—do. by Mr. W.* Barton	}	Pounds ster. 9329/.
		1 do.— 660 do. —do. by Mr. H. Cottrell		
		1 do.— 330 do. —do. by Mr. J. Pierce		
		1 do.— 100 do. —do. by Mr. Matt. Day		
		1 do.— 100 do. —do. by Mr. G. Hatch		
		1 do.— 100 do. —do. by Mr. J. Evelyn		

THE property in these bills wholly, solely, and entirely is yours, on the following conditions.

First, That you purchase East India stock to the amount.

\* The Christian names of those gentlemen in whose favour the bills were drawn,

William  
Henry  
John

Matthew  
George  
John.

SECONDLY,



SECONDLY, That from the interest on such stock, you pay the annual sum of three hundred pounds sterling to Mr. Henry Fred. Thompson, that is, two hundred pounds sterling to Mr. Henry Fred. Thompson, and one hundred pounds sterling to Sarah Thompson, on their separate receipts. But should the said Sarah Thompson be demised, you are, in that case, to pay the whole three hundred pounds sterling to Mr. Henry Fred. Thompson on his receipt only. The time of payment may be quarterly, half yearly, or yearly, as shall be most convenient for the parties who are to receive, and whose convenience you are to consult and consider therein.

THIRDLY, on the death or demise of the said Henry Fred. Thompson, the said three hundred pounds sterling, annual rent is to cease; and you are to pay out of the said East India stock to his widow Sarah Thompson and the children of her body lawfully begotten by the said Henry Fred.

Thompson, five thousand pounds sterling, in equal proportions, share and share alike betwixt the said widow and the said children.

FOURTHLY, Whatever may be the residue of the said stock, after the payment of the said five thousand pounds sterling, you are to pay to me, or my order.

FIFTHLY, Whatever interest may arise over and above the 300 l. you stand engaged for the payment of yearly to Mr. Henry Fred. Thompson, and his wife, Sarah Thompson, to be added yearly to the capital stock you shall purchase with the said bills, amounting to 9,329 l. and shall continue to accumulate the same, in proportion to what shall be the excess of such interest over and above the said 300 l. to be paid to the said Henry Fred. Thompson and his wife.

SIXTHLY, If Mr. Henry Fred. Thompson be demised, while I continue resident in India, after paying the 5000 l. already directed,

directed, to the widow and the children, whatever interest may arise from the residue of the said stock accumulating, by any excess of interest over and above the 300  $\text{\textit{l}}$ . before mentioned, to be paid as annual rent to Henry Frederick Thompson and Sarah Thompson, you are to pay to Sarah Thompson, until the said payment shall be counter-ordered by me, and in case of my demise before any such order be given, then the provisions made in my will are to be attended to, which supersede these instructions.

SEVENTHLY, Should Mr. Henry Fred. Thompson require of you an assignment on the India funds, to the amount of the annual rent to be paid to him, you are to make him such an assignment, which is to be paid out of the interest arising on the capital stock you should have purchased, and such assignment shall be your release to me, to the amount of the sums paid by the same.

Ship Ankerwyke, Jan. 2. 1776.

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Mr

My readers may conceive what I felt at perusing these instructions. I found myself stripped in an instant of one hundred a year out of the three hundred which had been settled on me as a small compensation for the loss of my employment, and the ruin of my fortune; and this hundred I was to give to the base wretch who had been the first cause of my destruction. But I saw at the same time that if I did not accept the then proposal, I was to have nothing. There was no time for reasoning with Mr. Barwell; the men were already employed at weighing anchor, and there remained but a few minutes to consider and resolve. Indeed I might be said to have no room for deliberation: I must either accept the terms offered, or starve. I therefore expressed my assent though with the utmost reluctance. Mr. Barwell immediately produced the following letter directed to himself as if it were from me, which he said

I should



I should sign before he would deliver the instructions to his brother.

TO RICHARD BARWELL, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE perused, and am fully satisfied with the instructions you have been pleased to give your brother, Capt. James Barwell and engage to execute the deeds your council shall judge necessary for the following purpose.

1st. To indemnify you from all litigation.

2. To secure Sarah Thompson my wife (whether she cohabits with me or not) one hundred pounds, out of the annuity you stand engaged for of three hundred *per annum*.

3d. To take no step to compel my said wife to live with me, in case she is averse to it, or disinclined. If any of these points are infringed by me, I hereby give up

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all claim and title to the annuity you stand engaged to pay me through your brother.

I am, dear Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

Jan. 2. 1776.

I FOLLOWED his direction, and in an instant cancelled, without being aware of it, the deed he had formerly passed to me in India, and of which I had been so careful that I had left it in England, lest I should be prevailed on to give it up! To cancel that deed was clearly the object that Mr. Barwell had most at heart: to this end he strove to lull suspicion in my breast, by endeavouring to inspire me with a high opinion of his honour; and practised in the arts of Asiatic dissimulation, he acted his part so well, that with all my prejudices, I was deceived and tricked by him: he had purposely delayed every thing till he had got me on board, and had so far protracted the business, that by the time I had signed the letter above-mentioned,  
and

and received my counter-obligation with his discharge, written as he had amended it, the anchor was up, and we had got under way. Satisfied with the conclusion of the affair, he wished me a good voyage, and in his boat returned to Calcutta.

PREVIOUS to my departure from India, I took the liberty to mention to Mr. R. Barwell the bond that I had passed to the captain. He desired I would give myself no uneasiness on that head, for his brother would never trouble me about it, as he had taken care to satisfy him with presents in India goods, not only for my passage to Calcutta, but also for carrying me back to England. Relying upon his honour, I did not desire the bond should be returned.

THE Ankerwyke had a good passage, and we arrived safe in London. I now flattered myself that all my disappointments were at an end ; that all my difficulties would be removed, and, that after

ter so many dangerous voyages and misfortunes, I might pass the remainder of my days in peace and quiet. But fortune had not yet done with me ; she had still in reserve for me a more dreadful blow ; and a far greater disappointment awaited me in England than I had experienced at Calcutta. In a word, I found that advantage was to be taken of the informality of the deed ; and that as the annuity was as a consideration for giving up my *wife*, and that no such person existed, as I was *really unmarried*, the Captain intended to have recourse to law, in order to have his brother released from his engagements. I then clearly saw the reason why Mr. Barwell had consented to appropriate the fund I wished for. A report, it seems, began to prevail in India, that Mrs. Bonner was not my wife ; and as the woman herself had probably confessed the truth of the report, her paramour soon turned the discovery to his advantage ; and must have given *private* instructions to his brother not to observe those which were *publicly*



*licly* given with a view to blind me, make me quit India, and so rid the Nabob of my importunities.

SOME time after my return, I called upon Capt. Barwell, to request he would put his orders into execution. He started so many difficulties, that I clearly perceived was little inclined to satisfy me. I afterwards writ to him the following card, to induce him, if possible, to settle the matter amicably, and so prevent litigation.

MR. Thompson presents his Compliments to Captain Barwell, he is induced from his own candid intentions to hope that Capt. Barwell is as much inclined as himself to bring the matter depending between them to a final and amicable issue. He therefore requests Capt. Barwell will appoint to-morrow morning, or Wednesday at farthest, for that purpose. As Mr. Thompson is desirous of obviating the least appearance of a tendency to litigation, or any other disagreeable steps, he

he will be accompanied by one friend only, who is no lawyer ; but from his long residence on the spot, where the matter giving rise to the business in agitation were transacted, is perfectly apprized of the merits of the case.

Monday, Nov. 11, 1776.

THE same day I received the following answer.

CAPTAIN Barwell presents his compliments to Mr. Thompson, does not wish to enter into the merits of his cause with him ; but begs to refer it to the lawyers, who may settle it properly, without litigation till C. B. can hear from his brother, Richard Barwell, now at Calcutta, relative thereto. Till then, C. B. will act as a mediator between the parties, and has given his lawyer instructions to act accordingly ; if the affair is litigated before C. B. hears from his brother, it will be Mr. Thompson's act.

Berner's street, Nov. 11, 1776.

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I IMMEDIATELY waited on Mr. Pickering, who informed me, that he was fully instructed how to act; but that previous to any step towards drawing up proper deeds, it would be necessary for him to see the *certificate of my marriage*. At the mention of a certificate I saw at once the full extent of my misfortunes. I saw that I had been robbed of my employment in Asia, and deprived of every advantage that my situation gave me room to hope for; and the paltry consideration I had received in return for my losses was now going to be taken from me for want of a certificate. I saw that my enemies were going to turn against me the rigid *letter* of the law, to support them in their flagrant violation of its *spirit*. An agreement had been entered into between Mr. Barwell and me. He gave what he deemed a compensation for what he received from me. I faithfully observed my part of the contract, indeed without much merit on my side; for I had too great a contempt for the wretch whom I had resigned to him, ever to think of troubling

troubling the happiness which he supposed he might enjoy with her ; he, on the contrary, was happy at finding a *legal informality* in the instrument that was to bind him, as it furnished him with a shadow of pretence for flying from his engagement. The only thing I could say to Mr. Pickering, was to desire he would ask Mrs. Thompson herself how she would be named in the deeds. For my part, as I saw they were determined to have recourse to *law*, I was resolved to try what redress I could have in *equity* ; I took the advice of counsel, and then for the first time discovered, that the letter I had signed on board the Ankerwyke in India, had rendered useless the deed which I had left in England ; I however had some hopes given me, that I might have some redress in a court of equity, and I accordingly prepared a bill to be filed in the exchequer : but here I was foiled again, as Capt. James Barwell would not suffer Mr. Pickering to appear for his brother, who being in India, could not put in an answer,



answer, or give instructions to his attorney to act for him in less than eighteen months. In the mean I might perish through want, as the Captain refused to give me any pecuniary assistance till he should have consulted his brother. I offered easy terms, but had the mortification to find them rejected.

FINDING the Captain deaf to the calls of justice and honour, I resolved to work upon his *pride*, and I must own, I expected more from that quarter than from any othes. Nor was I deceived. I drew up a short state of my case, into which I introduced Mr. Barwell's letters to the supposed Mrs. Thompson. I determined to lay it before the public, and made the Captain acquainted with my intention, in the following letters.

TO JAMES BARWELL, Esq.

S I R,

I RECEIVED your favour; and in consequence thereof waited on Mr. Pickering, whom I do not think fully  
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authorized to conclude between us. If I am averse to litigation, it is no less on account of your brother than myself. I might say with truth, that he will receive a much greater injury by the public exposure of what has passed, than any that can possibly affect me. For, in the present fluctuating state of affairs in Leadenhall-street, let me beg you will ask yourself this question; what effect will the publication of the transaction have on the minds of persons, already too much disposed, from a contrariety of views, to catch at any thing which may hurt his interest and better their own. However particular the circumstance on which you demur may avail to support an evasion in *law*, it will rather add weight to the opposite scale in equity; for all that can be said upon that point is only, that your brother was accidentally less culpable than he intended;—If the plan I had concerted in Europe was not carried into execution in India, by what was it defeated? By the intervention of that  
 very

very person who now pleads (through you) my deficiency in iniquity (so fraught with unhappiness to me) as an excuse for the non-performance of an engagement he entered into in consequence of my subversion by him. There are circumstances (which in compassion to the unhappy woman who is the *primum mobile* of this dispute) must be suppressed, that would easily account for my delaying the completion of an union, once as sincerely intended as it was afterwards (solely on account of your brother's proceedings) industriously avoided. The world, who can only argue from what they hear, are not competent judges of this matter. They may at first say I have imposed upon your brother. Put yourself in my situation, with what face could I have avowed an imposition on a whole settlement; at first carried on for reasons, which, though I might in confidence communicate to you, I will not now commit to paper! When I found that I was superseded, by an unhappy attachment for your brother,

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in the affections of a woman whom I intended to make my partner for life, I chose rather to undergo the temporary and local stigma of having parted with her under the conjugal tie, than by acknowledging the truth, to forego every advantage that might be derived to myself and children, and draw on myself the indignation of an offended body, to whom I was obliged, as the only method of getting her those advantages so necessary to her sex, to introduce her as my wife. Thus, Sir, your brother has not only been guilty of seducing the affections of a woman whom I intended to marry, but is (through you) endeavouring to deprive me of the only compensation it is now in his power to make me for the injuries I have received : disappointed in my love, and ruined in my fortune, he cannot restore me to the affections of her with whom formerly all my future prospects of happiness were connected : He cannot restore me to that profitable and honourable situation which I occupied abroad.



broad. Had I been more *culpable*, I had been more *fortunate*. Had your brother actually invaded conjugal felicity, there would not have been any attempt made to deprive me of a future provision, which he thought due to me as the wages of supposed infamy.—Had I actually accepted this under *real* instead of *imaginary* baseness, your brother would have been more excusable in the eyes of all good men for deceiving me than he will now, as his whole conduct will be ascribed entirely to a resentment raised by his finding that he was the object of deceit. A deceit, however, give me leave to say, reflects more credit on me, as being more agreeable to the principles of the better part of mankind. The only objections that you can make on the foregoing plea of not being authorised to act, will consist in your saying, (as has been said already) that having received instructions on certain presumptions, you are not warranted to act till you receive fresh orders. But at the same time you can persist in

the intermediate payment of two annuities, granted on those very presumptions, the failure of which prevents your doing an act of justice. But, Sir, if you can venture so far to exceed the tenure of your instructions (to which I fear you are induced, through the consideration of the welfare of an unfortunate woman rather than from any other more laudable motive) how much more warrantable in your brother's eyes will appear the latitude you may allow yourself, in order to obviate the reproach which may fall on him and your family in general, by the publication of the whole affair; especially as he had so much at heart the recovering out of my hands every testimony of his weakness, as to engage me to take a voyage, which has only been productive of trouble, loss of time, and expence! Submitting this to your consideration, and expecting your answer through the hands of Mr. Pickering, I remain,

Your most obedient servant,

HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

Nov. 13, 1776.

To

To JAMES BARWELL, Esq.

S I R,

Mr. Pickering objects that I had not, in my last, been particular in the nature of that satisfaction I expect from the various disappointments and injuries that I have received from your brother, (who has not only intruded on my happiness and ruined my fortune in India, but even when I at his particular desire returned to England, re-called me for no other purpose but to recover out of my hands the proof I have of his injurious behaviour, I now signify to you my demands of an immediate and irrevocable confirmation of the annuity of two hundred a year for my life. If this should be deemed disagreeable, in lieu of the annuity of 200 l. I am willing to accept of three thousand pounds, which, at 15 years purchase, will buy me an equivalent annuity ; and in either case the five thousand pounds for the benefit of the children (and for which  
I have

I have his bond) to remain *in statu quo*, and I demand the surrender of my bond for two thousand rupees. — Should you think these terms unreasonable, you will please to reflect, that they are no more than your brother, in the full current of his sin, voluntarily offered, as the price of *supposed infamy* on my side, and *actual iniquity* on his.—If I do not receive a positive answer to these demands some time on Wednesday next, I shall be fully convinced, I have nothing more to hope, on the score of equity. As I have promised Mr. Pickering that I will do nothing without acquainting him, I will on Thursday inclose to him a copy of an advertisement I have drawn for the publication of a pamphlet, the perusal of which will, I hope, prepare the minds of those who are finally to determine betwixt us in a court of justice; or, at least, will serve to obviate the ill opinions of some who have already been too much prejudiced  
against



against me by the vague reports of this business.—Till then, I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

HENRY FRED. THOMPSON.

Nov. 18, 1776.

THE family *pride* as I had expected was alarmed; the Captain at first meanly threatened to arrest me for the bond I had given, for my passage to India, tho' his brother had amply satisfied him on that head, in presents of muslins; he did not, however, think it prudent, to provoke or contend with me; a negociation was set on foot, and I received 1500 l. on condition, that I should, on oath, give up all the original letters of Mr. Barwell on the subject. I complied with the terms, but, as I did not wish to lose the means of my own justification, in case I should stand in need of them on any future occasion, I took care to keep *attested* copies of all the papers I had delivered up. Since that period I have had reason to rejoice at the precaution; for when I attempted

tempted to employ the 1500 l. in business, I found that no one of reputation liked to be concerned with me. The prejudices against my character were not confined to India or China ; they had found their way to England ; and as I have reason to suspect that some secret agents have been employed, for the purpose of propagating and keeping them alive, I find it absolutely necessary in justice to myself, to my friends and to my family, to lay the whole transaction before the public, in order to remove from my shoulders that load of infamy, which properly belongs to another ; and which I find at present the grand obstacle to my future successes in life. My resolution soon reached the family, and before I had proceeded far in this pamphlet, I was not a little surprised, at receiving a visit from the very woman, who was the author of all my misfortunes. She expressed her sorrow for what had passed ; and as the only reparation in her power to make me, she offered to divide with me, an annuity of 300 l. a year, which  
 she

she receives from her paramour; and begged that I would suppress the pamphlet, and bury the whole transaction in oblivion. I rejected the offer with contempt, though my circumstances, at the time, were such as would have staggered a pride that was less rooted than mine. My *character* required the publication, and that determined me not to suppress it.

I now stand before the bar of my country; I have been arraigned for a base crime, generous readers, you have now heard my defence, and I trust, that in your souls you will acquit me. I am not now in India, where a governor with all the power of an eastern monarch, and much more pride, makes justice, law and equity, bend beneath his will; where his breath more pestilential than the plague can blast the fairest character with impunity, and mar the rising fortunes of an honest man. I am now in England, where a *Nabob* is no more than a fellow-subject; before a tribunal, which all his wealth,

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accustomed as it is, to bear every thing before it in the east, is not able to bribe. The sentence will be dictated by impartiality, and as I am convinced that I have justice on my side, I wait the sentence without dread. Let those tremble at it, whose conduct, publicly exposed, must draw on them the reproach, and indignation, if not contempt, of mankind.

BEFORE I take leave of my readers, I must ask the liberty to make one more remark on the conduct of Mr. Barwell and his brother the Captain. In a letter which I received from the former in Calcutta, on Wednesday the 25th of October, my readers may recollect the following words.

S I R,

I WILL give you an order on my brother, if it is equally agreeable to you. I am satisfied that he will *neither abuse my confidence, or give you a moment's anxiety.*

I HAVE already shewn, how the latter part of the assertion was observed by the  
Captain.



Captain. If Richard was sincere in the instructions he gave his brother, and that he did not defeat them by any private orders, it must be confessed that James has betrayed his trust, and scandalously *abused his brother's confidence*: if on the other hand, James was privately instructed to act as he did, after his return to England, Richard must be condemned, by all plain dealing men, for having used the most infamous deceit, in order to deprive me of the benefit I could have found from the deed which I had in England. This is a dilemma in which the honour of one or other must necessarily suffer; and leaving it to them to settle the point of honour, I take my leave of them, with the fullest conviction, that when the public shall have weighed the whole matter, disgrace will change sides, and pass from the shoulders of the much injured Thompson, to those of the opulent *Indian* who has endeavoured to oppress him.



